



Quicksilver Quips

January 2012

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January President's Message

Do you make new year's resolutions? I don't. What's the point? I either do something or I don't. I'm the same way when it comes to decisions in general. The only times I second guess myself is when there is a possibility of hurting someone else with my actions. Then the stakes go up and some decisions are a little less black and white. That gets even more difficult when the other life form affected cannot speak for themselves, like our horses, so I've come to the conclusion that I need to spend more time just hanging out with them. I want my decisions to be based on a more intimate knowledge of my four-legged partners.

I remember when we first moved to our current house, 22 years ago, and finally realized the dream of having the horses at home. For months after the move, I would go to the barn at all hours of the day (and night!) and just sit with them. Sometimes I would take a book, and read while listening to them munch their dinner. It was great. Then it got more and more "every day"-like, and eventually I stopped doing that. I guess a lot of our relationships go that route... what was exciting becomes familiar, what's familiar becomes routine and what's routine is no longer noticed... so, instead of rushing to saddle up and go, I will savor and enjoy the whole process. Something about "enjoying the journey as much as the destination" kind of clicked (again) in my brain.

I took a friend riding last week. He does not ride regularly, but really enjoys it. I just got an email from him saying that he's still thinking about the ride. He said he finally made "the" connection with my horse. I guess that's what got me thinking about all this... that connection (on or off their backs) is the reason I have horses and ride. Sometimes I forget. Silly me.

We had a great Christmas party last month. Scrumptious food, lovely gift exchange and lively conversation. There are some photos somewhere in the newsletter, check them out. The BOD agreed to make a \$200.00 donation to the Stanford University Cancer Research center, so a check was presented to Judith Ogus to add to the money that was raised through the "Canter for the Cure" program she created. As I told a friend today, it was great to help raise money doing something that I love to eradicate something that I hate.

Well, folks, we have a new board, a new year ahead of us and hopefully, new adventures. I want to recognize the outgoing board for their wonderful contribution to the club this past year. Everyone worked hard and did a great job. We miss Karla. To Kathy, Trilby, Cathy, Sandie, Michelle and Brian: thank you!

I am also looking forward to working with the new board. We have a great and enthusiastic group, and we are ready to rock n' roll. Hold on to your hats, folks.

President's Message (Continued on page 2)

President's message *(Continued from page 1)*

The BANQUET will be at Harry's Hoffbrau in Cupertino, on Saturday February 18th starting at 6:30PM. It's the only date they had available, so we took it. I know it conflicts with a ride, but it was the best we could get. (This year I will make reservations in September!). Anyway, things are shaping up great. Mary is busy acquiring goodies, the recipients of last year's awards are eagerly taking nominations, Judith is hard at work on the calendar, Sandy is collecting miles (send those photos and miles in, folks, you still have a couple of days left!) and I may have found another goofy song to sing... maybe.

Other things on the radar: re-vamping the bylaws, fun rides, pot lucks, campouts, parties and a Fall ride. Do you have ideas? Do you want to get involved and help? Let me know! Let's enjoy this journey together!

Happy New year,

Elisabet

A New Tradition?

Well, it all started with Cathy Kauer offering a reward for the person who brought the goofiest photo of themselves or their horses to one of our meetings. It was the dinner meeting we had at Andales, in Los Gatos, to be precise. I happened to bring a very goofy picture of me on my horse Solo, which Kathy Brayton took on a prior ride. My prize? A nice \$10.00 bill.

I put the money in my club folder and kept it there until the next meeting, which was the pot luck at Trilby's. I decided that instead of a goofy picture, I would ask a trivia question (how many competitive miles does Trilby actually have?), and the winner would get the ten bucks... but no one guessed the exact amount, although two people were pretty close, so we called it a tie. The polite winners (Lori and Peggy) kept insisting I give the \$10 to the other, so I did the reasonable thing, tore the bill in half, and gave each of them one piece (their shocked expression was definitely worth seeing!)

My instructions to them were to come up with a trivia question for the next meeting, and to give the two pieces to the winner.

The next meeting was the Christmas party, and the question was asked: How many Tevis and Hagin cups have Quicksilver members won? (a lot!) Once again, we had a close number, but not exact, so again, we called a tie between the two closest, and Pat and Trilby took home ½ of a \$10 bill each. They now have to come up with a trivia question for our next meeting, which will be the Banquet. If we have a clear winner, they will win the money, if we don't, the two halves will continue their journey with the two closest guesses.

Let's see if we can keep it going. So far, it's been fun!

What? You want to know the answers to the questions? Sorry... you'll just have to come to the Banquet to find out.....

Elisabet

My Best Christmas Present

Tracy Hofstrand: My best gift this year is 2 items, A gift certificate from Sam's Downtown Pets feed store & a air rifle gun. I will use the certificate to buy my ponies grain and the air rifle to keep the squirrels from eating the grain faster than my horses can!

Lori McIntosh: My most special gift from my husband Nigel was a huge art book about the British painter, George Stubbs, who is considered the best horse painter of all time. I am already inspired for my horse portraits next year and can't wait to dig in some more. I'm so lucky to have such a supportive husband.

Peggy Davidson: Lots of quality time with my Dad up in Oregon while my stepmother recovers from a hip replacement surgery that resulted from a fall just before Christmas. And the gift that she is doing so good just 6 days after her surgery!

Hillorie Bachman: New Year's Eve in Dubai, with family and friends. Best all-time Christmas present: A chestnut horse named CV Eli, a gift from my Dad.

Judith Ogus: Had a wonderful Christmas dinner with best friends - great food, great company. Have lots of gratitude for having friendships that have survived for so many years.

Barbara McCrary: A trip to Arizona in early January to look at a new horse for me (my late mount died of colic recently.) If the photos are reliable, she's a beauty, with a ton of trail experience and a disposition suited for a "lady of a certain age." No more Arabs for me. This one is a Morgan. Best present: All family here for Christmas, including our granddaughter who is in the Army. She's back from Afghanistan and is stationed in Kentucky.



"Through the sun-dappled forest, ladies of the Court ride their caparisoned horses in this wildly romantic tapestry, adapted from the original painting by artist Emily Balivet. Includes decorative top rod and bottom weight rod. Cotton/polyester/spandex. Made in USA/imported. 26" x 36"."

On 12/19/11, Cindy Stafford wrote this to Ridecamp:

Since so many of us are stuck inside avoiding the winter weather, maybe you can help me out....trying to decorate my home office. It's going to have a horse theme of course, but I was looking for some budget friendly horse art I can stick on the wall - besides photos of my own ponies of course :).

I've been browsing art.com, but please chime in if any of you have favorite artists or websites out there I should check out?

Cindy

Quicksilver member Beverley Kane answered her:

What a great question! I, a former art history major in love with 15th century tapestries like "Hunt of the Unicorn", just purchased the Autumn Riders wall tapestry of 3 horsewomen from the Pyramid Collection for my home office: <http://www.pyramidcollection.com/itemdy00.asp?T1=P28406&ref=us>

As we live in a geodesic dome, that blank white wall, angled inward at 45°, has defied decoration for 15 years. The tapestry hangs nicely vertical off the slanted wall. When I have meetings w/ my 2 EAL co-facilitators and my 2 horseman's association sub-committee members—all riders—we become the 3 women in the forest.

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The tapestry is good quality—I added some gold silk tassels to the leaves at the ends of the rod.

War Horse—The Movie

I just saw War Horse. If you haven't seen it, I'd say give it a go, but bring an ample supply of Kleenex!

Yes, as a horse person, you will have to put some of your knowledge aside and go into the "make believe" world of Hollywood, but it's worth it. On the other hand, if you are totally turned off by war movies, this one may not be for you. Although a lot less graphic than many war movies I've seen, it somehow conveys the total ugliness of war perfectly. If you can't stand to see a horse suffer (even if you know the blood is ketchup!) you may want to think about it. What was done to horses during the war was beyond horrific, and it's hard to separate fiction from reality in some of the scenes. BUT, if you can get past that and enjoy a good drama and a story that makes the child within you say "see...? horses ARE able to communicate, love, grieve and remember" then by all means, GO.

I have to be honest, the only reason I managed to make it through the whole thing without totally losing it (not to say that I didn't lose it, just not totally) was the fact that I knew the story had a happy ending. I hope that knowing this doesn't spoil it for you. There were scenes where I just had to keep telling myself "happy ending... happy ending... happy ending" or I'm not sure I would have been able to take it.

The movie starts in Rural England just before WWI with the developing friendship of a boy and a remarkable horse... an amazing horse. The kind of horse we all dream of having for a partner once in our lifetime, if we are lucky. War, as it always does, disrupts the friendship as well as the world all the protagonists know. Their journeys are followed through the eyes of the horse, the boy, the farmers and the armies. In the midst of incredible horror, good people shine with acts of kindness. Even the bad guys have good guys...

There is one scene, which was one of my absolute favorites: Joey (the horse) escapes a terrible battle relatively unscathed, only to run into barb wire traps set up in a field between English and German soldiers. During a lull in the battle, one soldier notices "something moving" in what they call "no man's land". They soon realize that it is a horse. A white flag goes up, and two soldiers, one from each side, temporarily put their fight aside, and become a team completely focused on saving a horse. Suddenly, they are talking to each other as if they were friends, and the whole idiocy of war becomes so evident. It's hard to kill someone whom you know by name. Spielberg, somehow, manages to make you laugh at a time when all you want to do is cry.

The happy ending comes, eventually, and I was glad the theater people seemed to leave the lights low for quite a while as the credits rolled... good thing, as it gave me time to wipe the tears and compose myself a bit. I definitely wasn't the only one that needed to, either.

Elisabet Hiatt

Thanks to the generous efforts and donations of many riders and sponsors, Canter for the Cure collected \$7,762 for cancer research at Stanford's University!!!



Judith Ogus

Quicksilver Club Celebrates Christmas !



Top: Hmmmmm...which present to steal?

Bottom: "Santa" Steve Lenheim hamming it up

Top: Elisabet and the craziest Santa hat

Center: Judith looks pleased

Bottom: Members opening gifts

Year-end Point Standings

Regional Mileage Championship

Central Region

Rider	Name	Equine Name	Breed	Sex	Miles
2	Michael Maul	Rroco-My-Sol	1/2 Arabian	G	960

West Region

Rider	Name	Equine Name	Breed	Sex	Miles
1	Karen Chaton	Pro Bono D	Arabian	G	3600
		Granite Chief+/-	Arabian	G	

National Mileage Championship

Senior Division

Rank	Rider	Region	Equine Name	Breed	Sex	Miles
2	Karen Chaton	W	Granite Chief+/-	Arabian	G	2135
6	Karen Chaton	W	Pro Bono D	Arabian	G	1465

Regional Point Standings

Central Region

Middleweight Division

Div.Pl.	Rider	Equine	Breed	Sex	Miles	Div.Pts.	Ov.Pts.	Ov.Pl.
2	Michael Maul	Rroco-My-Sol	1/2 Arabian	G	960	1889	1056	6

West Region

Featherweight Division

Div.Pl.	Rider	Equine	Breed	Sex	Miles	Div.Pts.	Ov.Pts.	Ov.Pl.
1	Karen Chaton	Pro Bono D	Arabian	G	2135	4292.5	2730	2
2	Karen Chaton	Granite Chief+/-	Arabian	G	1465	3279.5	1702	7

Middleweight Division

Div.Pl.	Rider Name	Equine	Breed	Sex	Miles	Div.Pts.	Ov.Pts.	Ov.Pl.
8	Jeremy Reynolds	A Kutt Above	Arabian	G	300	1150	1050	

Bob & Julie Suhr Husband & Wife Team Award

Sponsored by Sundowner Trailers

Rank	Name	Region	Miles	Points
3	Jeremy & Heather Reynolds	W	1315	3750.31

Pioneer Award Standings

Featherweight Division

Rank	Rider	Region	Equine Name	Breed	Sex	Miles	Points
4	Karen Chaton	W	Pro Bono D	Arabian	G	560	997

Humor



Inside me lives a skinny woman crying to get out. But I can usually shut her up with cookies.



~ Unknown ~



Inside every older person is a younger person -- wondering what the hell happened.

~ Cora Harvey Armstrong ~



Touch someone's heart. Remember them on their birthday by sending a thoughtful card.

If you would like to be remembered on your birthday, and I don't yet have your date, please send it to me. All I need is your name, month, and day.

I don't collect years of birth. After all, who wants everyone to know how old you are?

Barbara

bigcreekbranch@wildblue.net



Happy January Birthday to our Quicksilver Members

Robert Ribley	2
Elaine Alton	3
Jeremy Reynolds	16
Kathy Miller	18
Bob Verheul	23
Ann Plaggmier	23
Pat Verheul	27
Holly Bergantz	27
Tieran Rashid	28
Mike Maul	30

Humor

Why did the chicken cross the road?

BARACK OBAMA: The chicken crossed the road because it was time for a **change!** The chicken wanted **change!**

JOHN MC CAIN: My friends, that chicken crossed the road because he recognized the need to engage in cooperation and dialogue with all the chickens on the other side of the road.

HILLARY CLINTON: When I was First Lady, I personally helped that little chicken to cross the road. This experience makes me uniquely qualified to ensure right from Day One that every chicken in this country gets the chance it deserves to cross the road. But then, this really isn't about me.

GEORGE W. BUSH: We don't really care why the chicken crossed the road. We just want to know if the chicken is on our side of the road, or not. The chicken is either against us, or for us. There is no middle ground here.

DICK CHENEY: Where's my gun?

COLIN POWELL: Now to the left of the screen, you can clearly see the satellite image of the chicken crossing the road.

BILL CLINTON: I did not cross the road with that chicken. What is your definition of chicken?

AL GORE: I invented the chicken.

JOHN KERRY: Although I voted to let the chicken cross the road, I am now against it! It was the wrong road to cross, and I was misled about the chicken's intentions. I am not for it now, and will remain against it.

AL SHARPTON: Why are all the chickens white? We need some black chickens.

DR. PHIL: The problem we have here is that this chicken won't realize that he must first deal with the problem on **this** side of the road before it goes after the problem on the **other** side of the road. What we need to do is help him realize how stupid he's acting by not taking on his current problems before adding new problems.

OPRAH: Well, I understand that the chicken is having problems, which is why he wants to cross this road so bad. So instead of having the chicken learn from his mistakes and take falls, which is a part of life, I'm going to give this chicken a car so that he can just drive across the road and not live his life like the rest of the chickens.

ANDERSON COOPER, CNN: We have reason to believe there is a chicken, but we have not yet been allowed to have access to the other side of the road.

NANCY GRACE: That chicken crossed the road because he's **guilty!** You can see it in his eyes and the way he walks.

PAT BUCHANAN: To steal the job of a decent, hardworking American.

MARTHA STEWART: No one called me to warn me which way that chicken was going. I had a standing order at the Farmer's Market to sell my eggs when the price dropped to a certain level. No little bird gave me any insider information.

DR SEUSS: Did the chicken cross the road? Did he cross it with a toad? Yes, the chicken crossed the road, but why it crossed I've not been told.

ERNEST HEMINGWAY: To die in the rain, alone.

JERRY FALWELL: Because the chicken was gay! Can't you people see the plain truth? That's why they call it the other side. Yes, my friends, that chicken is gay. And if you eat that chicken, you will become gay, too. I say we boycott all chickens until we sort out this abomination that the liberal media whitewashes with seemingly harmless phrases like 'the other side.' That chicken should not be crossing the road. It's as plain and as simple as that.

GRANDPA: In my day we didn't ask why the chicken crossed the road. Somebody told us the chicken crossed the road, and that was good enough.

BARBARA WALTERS: Isn't that interesting? In a few moments, we will be listening to the chicken tell, for the first time, the heart-warming story of how it experienced a serious case of molting, and went on to accomplish its lifelong dream of crossing the road.

ARISTOTLE: It is the nature of chickens to cross the road.

JOHN LENNON: Imagine all the chickens in the world crossing roads together, in peace.

BILL GATES: I have just released eChicken 2008, which will not only cross roads, but will lay eggs, file your important documents, and balance your checkbook. Internet Explorer is an integral part of eChicken 2008. This new platform is much more stable and will never crash or need to be rebooted.

ALBERT EINSTEIN: Did the chicken really cross the road, or did the road move beneath the chicken?

COLONEL SANDERS: Did I miss one?

Editor's note: I realize this is a few years out of date, but it is still hysterically funny. May it brighten your day with laughter!



"You're fired, Jack. The lab results just came back, and you tested positive for Coke."



Classifieds...

NEW Portable Corral System

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WANTED

Wanted: 2 easy boots, size 2.

New or used.

Elisabet
lazo@ucsc.edu
831-234-4732

For Sale: Abetta Endurance Saddle

Arabian wide tree, 15 inch seat.

Chinches, latigos, billets and round barrel pad included.

Black synthetic seat w/ fenders removed.

Lots of rings and tie straps.

Good clean condition. Sorry, no photos. **Price \$200.**

Michelle—(831) 427-1533

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Two beautiful leather contoured girths, stirrups with new leathers, plus sheepskin pad and saddle cover - \$1,000.

Contact :

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PRINTING SERVICES

for Quicksilver club ride managers.

Our club now has a color duplex printer that is located in the home of Becky and Judith. You can do the printing at the cost of 25¢ per page color and 6¢ per page B&W, if you provide the paper. If you e-mail the printable files to Becky, she will do the printing for you at the cost of 27¢ per page color and 8¢ per page B&W, including the paper.

E-mail **Becky: bghart@garlic.com**

I have a set of portable corrals for sale. There are 12 panels that are 12 feet long. They are light weight and white.

Paid \$1100 asking **\$500.**

Heather Reynolds
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1998 FEATHERLITE 3 horse slant with living quarters. Large separate bathroom with sink, cabinet, toilet and separate shower.

Two burner stove top and microwave. AC and heater. 6 gal. water heater. Box length is 23'. 8' wide and tall roof. Trailer part has WERM flooring. 4 new tires (which are always kept covered). Drop down windows, sliding windows on off side, extra outside lights, stud panel in front stall with exit door, walk through door from LQ to horse area.

Comes with two HiTies on the off side. It has an electric motor to raise it off the hitch.

Rear tack has 3 saddle racks and many bridle hooks. Rear tack also has 50 gal. water tank.

There is a small solar panel mounted on the roof. Additional storage under mangers.

May sell with Honda 3000 Inverter which is enough to run the microwave and AC.

It needs a new vent cover in the bathroom and the sewer pipe underneath needs to be replaced.

I did not fix it because I use a porta-potty and save going to the dump sites, which is a pain for me.

Extra water tank in corner of back tack room.

\$20,000.00

Maryben
408-265-0839

From Becky Hart

As you may know, Tom Stutzman donated a large quantity of tack to the club, including 3 orthoflex saddles. One is brand new, never out of the box. We sold one saddle, but still have the new one and a stitchdown for sale, as well as miscellaneous tack. The sale of the tack generated enough revenue to have a nice awards banquet (it was going to be scaled way down) and to replace the old printer with a new laser printer that will print double sided and color. This printer will be used for the calendar and can be made available to ride managers who would like to print much more cheaply than Kinko's or other copying stores. They need to provide their own paper. The board will need to determine what the price will be to others.

Ortho-Flex Officer's Patriot,
\$ 1700/OBO
stitch-down seat, thigh rolls, 17"
seat (western sizing). Billets
should be replaced.



Ortho-Flex Patriot, \$2000/OBO 16"
seat (western sizing), brand new,
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Becky Hart, 408-425-5860 or
Maryben Stover 408-265-0839



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**For Sale: SR Saddle - Black - 15 inch
seat - built for a person 5'3 1/2" Virtually
new, has buck stitching and carving on
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Price \$2,850.
Other photos available.**

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FREE
**Grey Mare loves the trail, jumps
into the trailer, easy to shoe, give shots
clip, etc. Knows all about camping
and respects fences. Well trained!!!
22 y.o., an excellent mare w/slight
arthritis in front right (managed with
oral meds.) Please help me find her a
new home as soon as possible.**

Michelle H.
831.427.1533 or
montra7003@sbcglobal.net

SR Saddle—Jan Jeffers

My wonderful endurance mare, Mocha
Mirah - Maggie - had a foal last June.
She is fifteen and now back home and
raring to go down the trail. She needs to
be a pleasure trail horse - probably not
endurance though she would love to do
it. She is 14.3 at most, has great bone
and a deep heart girth and is very
smooth. She likes to go so not for
someone who likes to dawdle. Please
pass this on to anyone who might be
interested. She must live in a pasture -
not a stall and paddock. She would also
make a great brood mare!

Judith Ogus
jr_ogus@garlic.com

**PLEASE INFORM ME PROMPTLY IF YOU
HAVE SOLD OR WITHDRAWN YOUR
ITEM.
Barbara**
bigcreekranch@wildblue.net

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

FIRST: We need your name

And then your address

And your phone number, Fax, e-mail

And then we need your money! Senior membership is \$ 25 _____

Junior (under 16 years of age) membership is \$ 15 _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Why join the Quicksilver Endurance Riders? You will have the opportunity to participate in poker rides, moonlight rides, endurance rides, trail projects as well as attend monthly meetings, the Christmas party, and the annual awards ceremony; saving the best for last, you will meet the best friends you will ever have!

How are our dues spent? Annual Yearbook/Calendar; monthly Newsletter; a representative voice in local horse politics; trail maintenance and improvement projects; year-end awards and monthly meetings.

Send your dues, checks made out to: Quicksilver Endurance Riders, Inc.

**Mail to Membership Chairperson: Maryben Stover
1299 Sandra Drive
San Jose, CA 95125-3535
(408) 265-0839**

May your and your horse(s) have a wonderful year riding together as 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.

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

