



Quicksilver Quips

January 2015

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Officers

President.....Lori Oleson
Vice President.....Kathy Brayton
Secretary.....Hillary Graham
Treasurer.....Maryben Stover

Board Members

Elisabet Hiatt
Jeanine McCrary
Barb Granter

Newsletter Editor

Barbara McCrary
bigcreekranch@wildblue.net

Quicksilver on the Web

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

President's Message – January 2015

Note from the your Board:

New Board members were announced on December 12th at the Christmas Party, where Trilby and her elves did their usual job of turning out a fantastic feast – thanks Trilby!

We would like to take a moment to thank our out going Board members for your service to the club. Your dedication and hard work are appreciated and you have set the bar high for our new leadership.

Please remember to get your Year End Points and Mileage Forms into Jayne Perryman by January 15th. Make note of your milestones and achievements, as we would all like the chance to hear about your season. Send them via email to jayneperryman@yahoo.com or mail to Jayne Perryman, 19240 Vista De Lomas, Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Your new Board members are happy to serve the club, and to be sure that we represent all the of members, be sure and share ideas and interests with your Board representatives.

Happy New Year!

P.S. Be sure to send in photos of yourselves and horses to Judith for the 2015 calendar.

QUICKSILVER TREASURER REPORT
December, 2014

Balance 11/30/14			\$8,311.40
Expenses:			
	Bank Charges	6.00	
	Barbara McCrary	59.75	
	Trilby Pederson – Christmas Party	37.46	
	Bank Adjustment	19.78	(122.99)
Income:	Dues		\$90.00
Balance 12/31/14			\$8,278.41
Trails Account			\$1,074.16
Junior Account			\$454.38

By Maryben Stover

Quicksilver 2015 Calendar

**February 7, 2015—Quicksilver Awards Banquet
at Harry's Hofbrau , 390 Saratoga Ave. San Jose**

6:00 PM for dinner, 6:45 for awards



2014 QSER YEAR END POINTS/MI LEAGE FORM

Name of Rider _____

Wt. Division _____ Total Career Miles Rider _____

Milestones the Year:

Name of Horse _____ Career Miles _____

Name of Horse _____ Career Miles _____

Name of Horse _____ Career Miles _____

Name of Ride	Distance	Horse Ridden	Placing in your weight division	BC?	Did you sponsor a Junior?

Crewing Mileage:

Name of Ride	Distance	Rider	Placing

Volunteer Mileage:

Name of Ride	Distance	Position

Use additional pages if necessary. All forms must be returned by January 15, 2015.
 Please mail completed forms to Jayne Perryman, 19240 Vista De Lomas, Morgan Hill, CA

Ancient Horse Samples Offer Hints to Domestication

NEW YORK (GenomeWeb) – An international team has retraced some of the genetic features that seem to characterize domesticated horses with the help of newly generated genome sequences representing ancient, pre-domestication horses from Russia.

As they reported in the early, online edition of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* this week, researchers from Denmark, the US, and elsewhere did genome sequencing on horse remains retrieved from a Siberian permafrost site in the Taymyr peninsula. One of the samples was dated at almost 16,100 years old, while the other appears to be nearly 43,000 years old, marking points in history long before horses were domesticated.

By comparing the genomes to those of half a dozen other horses — five from domestic horse breeds and one wild Przewalski's horse — the team more fully defined relationships between wild and domestic horses, identifying more than 100 genes showing signs of selection that may be related to the domestication process.

"We were thinking, 'Let's compare pre-domesticated horses to modern horses and let's use comparative genomics to tease out what it is [humans have] selected since,'" senior author Ludovic Orlando, a researcher with the University of Copenhagen's Centre for GeoGenetics, told GenomeWeb.

In a study published last year in *Nature*, Orlando and colleagues considered sequences from a 700,000-year-old horse fossil from Canada's Yukon Territory, along with sequences from a donkey outgroup and representatives from several horse breeds — an analysis that argued for divergence in the equine lineage that stretches back at least four million years.

Members of the same team decided to use some of the same methods for optimizing ancient DNA in sequencing libraries to look at more recent events in equine evolution, particularly those related to horse domestication, Orlando explained.

Historical evidence puts horse domestication at a point within the past 5,500 or more years, authors of the current study noted. In that time, the animals have helped transform how humans travel, trade products and social practices, and take up arms against one another.

The genetic processes that accompanied the transition from wild to domestic horses remain incompletely defined, they explained, in part because few wild horses have persisted. Those that do — members of the Przewalski's horse breed in Mongolia — are part of a sister lineage to domestic breeds, rather than one that's ancestral to domesticated horses.

"The [Przewalski's horses] were not really good animals to compare domestic horses against because their divergence time was too far off," Orlando said. "So, there's no good, living surrogate for the [ancestral] wild horse, even if there are wild horses around."



Przewalski's horse

Moreover, researchers suspect that genetic diversity in the Przewalski's horse has been winnowed down compared to more ancient wild horses, due to factors such as inbreeding and demographic bottlenecks.

The team attempted to further unravel horse relationships and domestication history using samples from a permafrost site in Siberia where dozens of ancient horse bones were discovered.

Using Illumina sequencing instruments and DNA from two of the samples, the researchers generated sequences that covered the horse reference genome to an average depth of 24.3-fold coverage in the case of the 42,692-year-old sample, and 7.4-fold average coverage for the 16,099-year-old sample.

The samples came from the Late Pleistocene period, Orlando explained, a period in history during which dogs are the only animal that's believed to have been domesticated.

Although the mitochondrial sequences overlapped with the genetic diversity found in present-day horses, the team's phylogenetic look at variants in the protein-coding portions of the genome placed the ancient Russian horses in a group that's genetically distinct of both domestic horses and the Przewalski's horse.

Whereas the domesticated horse lineage appears to have split from the lineage leading to Przewalski's horse roughly 43,000 to 52,000 years ago, the researchers reported, the Russian horses appear to have belonged to a group that diverged from the common ancestor of both of those groups some 127,000 to 159,000 years ago.

"There seems to be three populations of horses," Orlando said. "There are the Przewalski's horse population on one hand and the domestic horses on the other hand. And then there's another one, which is basically the ancient horse population."

Nevertheless, the team saw signs of past mixing between members of the ancient wild lineage represented by the Russian horses and domestic horses. Results from the study suggest that at least 15 percent of domestic horse sequence can be traced back to the wild population, which appears to have admixed with domestic horses after the Przewalski's horse-domestic horse split.

The study's authors suspect this mixing was a consequence of so-called "re-stocking" of domestic horses from wild horse populations, Orlando noted. "Basically, when [humans] started domesticating horses, we re-stocked the domestic

Ancient Horse (Continued on page 5)

Ancient Horse *(Continued from page 4)*

gene pool from the wild."

Through a series of subsequent analyses, the team compared features in the wild and domestic horse genomes, searching for sites in the genome that were changed by domestication and could be detected using multiple methods for seeing selection.

That search led to 125 genes in the horse genome that showed potential signs of selection related to domestication. This set included genes believed to be involved in locomotion-related features such as muscle development, bone development, heart formation, and cardiovascular capabilities.

Other genes with potential ties to domestication had proposed roles in the shape of bone in the horse face and head, as well as genes associated with behavioral traits such as cognition, learning, fear, and agreeableness.

Finally, the study's authors also described an apparent jump in deleterious mutations in domesticated horse genomes, which were identified using an indirect approach that picked out sites that are highly conserved in other mammalian sequences but altered in modern horses.

That finding fits with the notion that domestication extracts a toll on the species involved by dialing down the strength of selective processes that normally weed out detrimental variants — a theory proposed in the past based on genetic patterns in other domesticated animals and plants.

Orlando and his team are continuing to apply ancient DNA analysis strategies to test horse samples collected over space and time in the hopes of untangling domestication-related features that may have arisen as horses adapted to handle new jobs humans have given them — from pulling chariots or plows to providing rides for mounted cavalry.

"We have identified a series of archeological 'seams,' as we call them, because we know from the archaeological record and from cultural evidence that things have been changing at those times," Orlando said.

"You can imagine that with chariots, with cavalry, or with something else, we would need to select slightly different things," he said. "So maybe some of those have constituted selective pressures to shape the horse in a given way at a given time."

Submitted by:

Jacqueline K. Davidson, M.A., Communication

Technical Writing, Training & Consulting

Specializing in the Biotech, Medical Device, Diagnostics and Pharmaceutical Industries

The Przewalski's Horse in Mongolia

By Barbara McCrary

On our trip to Mongolia this past fall, we travelled to Hustai Park where the Przewalski's horse runs free, completely protected, and is multiplying.

This breed was once hunted for food, among other depredations, and was extinct in its native land. A number of dedicated people joined forces and imported from a zoo in the Netherlands a very few head to be turned loose in this park in Mongolia. They have reproduced and are now a nice little herd, living as they did in ancient times.



The horses were downhill a considerable distance from us, and the photo was taken with a zoom lens, so it is not very spectacular. We were not allowed to get close to them, and they likely would have run had we tried. They deal with brutal winters and wolves in their own natural way.

My Favorite Christmas Gifts

Katie Webb: This year, my friend Dan got me a bike rack for my car, and I always love getting my AERC membership renewed by my grandparents. Both of those will pay dividends throughout the entire year!

Barbara & Lud McCrary: We gifted ourselves with a new portable log splitter, and promptly spent Christmas Day happily splitting at least a cord of firewood. It works great! We also got a log cart designed to haul 220# of wood. We can wheel this onto our porch and carry just a couple of pieces at a time to the stove or fireplace. In 2000, we gave ourselves a John Deere Gator, now 14 years old, and one of the most amazing tools we have ever bought. You can tell that we like a good, useful tool around the ranch. MUCH better than a bottle of perfume!

Michele Roush, DVM: I have two Christmas stories. The first is from Coso Junction ride, when my boyfriend surprised me completely with a proposal and a ring. He had some help from friends to do it. He gave Annie a letter in an envelope and she announced at the ride meeting Saturday night that she had a special award to give out, so everyone needed to stay at the meeting after the instructions for the next day were handed out. Then she called me up there and I was wondering why on Earth I was getting a special award. She handed me the letter, and it said "Michele, will you marry me? Dennis"

What a wonderful shock! I was so struck, I could hardly speak, and then Dennis was there on one knee with an amazing unique ring with a diamond in the middle of a horseshoe, that he designed himself!

So, for everyone who did not hear me, I said "YES!"

My other story is about the attached picture. We did not do a Christmas tree this year, and when I went out to feed on Christmas Eve, my new young horse, Dave, had this twig stuck in his tail. Dave brought us a Christmas tree!!



Janice Frazier: I got my first horse at age 22 (36 yrs. ago) and of course wrote about her in my holiday letter. My oldest brother and his wife (neither of whom I was particularly emotionally close to, as he is 8 years older than I and only see at big holidays at my parents') gave me a very nice leather halter from Christiansen's for her. I only used it for special events, and still have it to this day.

Elaine Elbizri: I didn't get exciting or unusual gifts except for one. My daughter-in-law and her sister decided to prepare and cook Xmas dinner in my kitchen. I was banished and got dirty looks if I even wanted to get a drink of water or something else. (There were lots of mimosas available!) I was not involved in the planning and could not even tell them where I kept my pots and pans or the best way to roast vegetables- well this last suggestions was very inappropriate. I retorted by telling them that I was being thrown out as being past it and felt that they thought my time had come!!

Throughout the day I kept wondering what is so nice about this day. I am not worrying about family misbehaving. I was not trying to control the proceedings or wandering around in a tired haze or watching the clock because it is time to get the roast in the oven, and I haven't peeled the potatoes (in my family you can't have Xmas dinner without roast potatoes).

After dinner both cooks were exhausted, one curled up on the sofa and fell fast to sleep (I know how she felt.) This was an extraordinary and truly fun Xmas with my family that will linger with me for a long time.

Best wishes for the new year to all Quicksilver folks, and thanks for the many emails with ideas, news, warnings, recommendations and notices of activity during 2014.

Elisabet Hiatt: This one is not my most treasured one, but it is unusual... one of my gifts for this year was a shelf my husband made me to display my "mate" gourd collection. (Mate is a South American tea that is drunk through a "bombilla", which is kind of like a straw, but with a filter at the bottom, so you don't get the tea leaves in your mouth. The gourds, just like tea cups, come in every shape and materials imaginable, from a simple, real gourd, to precious metals). Our living room is kind of dark, so he added LED lights in both directions, which also helps make the room brighter.



Christmas Gifts (Continued on page 7)

Quicksilver's 2014 Christmas Party



Navicular Drug Receives FDA Approval

Tildren (tiludronate disodium) has received U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval and is now available to U.S. equine veterinarians to help manage navicular syndrome.

With the recent FDA approval, Ceva Animal Health began selling Tildren in the United States in early December. Approved to control clinical signs associated with navicular syndrome in horses, Tildren is available for veterinarians to purchase through national distribution channels.

Tildren is designed to regulate osteoclasts in areas of excessive activity. In navicular syndrome, excessive mechanical stress results in bone resorption outpacing bone formation. Tildren works at areas of active bone resorption, restoring balance to the process of bone remodeling.

Tildren has been used worldwide for more than 12 years with more than 250,000 doses administered. Some U.S. veterinarians are already familiar with the product due to its use in international markets.

I've used Tildren on Tango twice now with great results, but it's very expensive! Maybe now it will come down in price a bit!

Submitted by Elisabet Hiatt

Christmas Gifts (Continued from page 6)

Lori McIntosh: Nigel bought me a new hot water heater that is now attached to our shed converted from the shower head to our hose. Mainly due to my embarrassment of owning a Poopamino named Finn. Maybe I will wrap his tail and braid his mane since he is a fancy trail horse.

Nigel also bought me a new helmet since it hit the 5 year mark and my forehead was always breaking out from being sweaty.

I gave Nigel new Ariat terrain chaps as his just shredded and never really were the same since our Iceland trip back in 2007 in mega rain which made them a bit musty. He has been suffering all this time.

If only I got an equi-massager, would I be truly happy? Wait a minute, I have the amazing Tami E. to see my boys, why bother when you have an expert local to help your boys be superstars.

Classifieds



BOOKS ARE THE PERFECT GIFT!



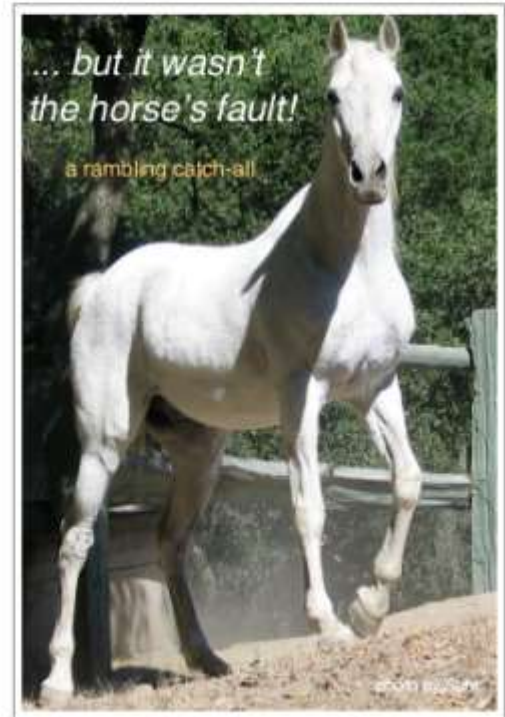
To benefit our trails and our horses, I have written two books. They are entirely different in style.

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 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

Available for adoption, was rescued from the Morgan Hill case in November. Pistol, sweet 12 yr. Mare - papered quarter horse (working on getting them and more details). Comes to you and loves attention and grooming. Beautiful deep chestnut color, back legs white socks. Lovely long mane, forelock and tail. 15.2 Hands. Contact (408) 390-1226 Janice.Frazier@sbcglobal.net



Classifieds

Rental

2 BR, 1 BA Renovated, Available soon \$1,925: MORGAN HILL COUNTRY living in Uvas Canyon. Renting the entire first floor of 3 story home. (Private; this is not shared space). Rental is approximately 900 - 1000 sq feet: Private entrance with parking in front of entrance. Kitchen, Living room and Dining are one large open area and have been renovated. New windows throughout with new window blinds.

There is a washer-dryer hookup available in one bedroom or may share washer-dryer in garage.

Looking for quiet, non-smoking person(s) who enjoy the country. Home is surrounded by scenic cattle/horse pastures, hills and seasonal creeks. This is country living requiring tolerance and respect for ranch animals, night sounds of roosters, hens, owls and other wildlife.

One quiet person lives in upper stories of home.

Location: The property is located 1 mile off Uvas Road, a popular scenic bicycling route and 5 miles South of Cinnabar Golf course, 6-7 miles South of Bailey and McKean (Almaden Valley).

Owner pays majority of PGE, Water, Trash, High speed DSL line and Direct TV. If renter has additional needs for higher usage of utilities, this can be negotiated.



Contact:

Susan Stillman
suzranch66@gmail.com



Services

CENTERED RIDING® LESSONS

Help your horse use him/herself effectively while going down the trail.

Take the stress out of your body and your horse's body.

Find out how to have a better seat and make your horse more comfortable.

Centered Riding® lessons available with

Level 3 Centered Riding instructor. Clinics available upon request.

Becky Hart

(408) 425-5860



HORSE BOARDING PERFECT FOR ENDURANCE HORSES ALMADEN AREA

Huge paddocks with lots of room. Our pastures are real pastures and not crowded -- approximately 2 acres per horse. (*See photo at left.*) We have direct trail access. Rates start at \$275. 1 free trailer parking space per boarder. Top quality grass/alfalfa hay fed. Also riding lessons with three-time world champion. Call

Becky: 408-425-5860 or Maryben: 408-265-0839.

email to merryben@live.com

ANNOUNCING

LOARC

Lichen Oaks Adaptive Riding Center

Stacy James-Ryan

Program Director

Stacy is an avid horsewoman and a Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) instructor. We are now ready and excited to start our program in Felton, CA to help special needs clients by either riding or performing ground exercises with our amazing therapy horses. Please contact us if you know of those who would benefit from our program or if you would like to be a LOARC volunteer.

Jean Kvamme

Executive Director

info@loarc.net

www.loarc.net
(in construction)

(831) 335-2347
fax: (831) 335-2384

Lichen Oaks Adaptive Riding Center is a pending not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization.

Services



HORSE BOARDING FACILITY

20535 Rome Drive, San Jose, California.

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

My place borders Quicksilver Park.

Trilby – (408) 997-7500

TAX SERVICES

Specializing in horses.

Trilby — (408) 997-7500

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**

Humor and Birthdays



Submitted by David de la Rosa



Bob suddenly realized his wife had fallen off her horse, which was quite a relief to him as just an hour earlier he thought he'd gone deaf.

Submitted by Elisabet Hiatt



Happy January Birthdays to our Quicksilver Members and Endurance Friends

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

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 _____

Family membership is \$ 40 _____

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!!!

"Life outside of endurance? I don't think so."

Dave Rabe

"Nothing can stop a man with the right mental attitude from achieving his goal; nothing on earth can help the man with the wrong mental attitude."

Thomas Jefferson

(Do you think maybe Jefferson was an endurance rider?)

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**

