



# Quicksilver Quips

May 2019

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## Officers

**President.....Jill Kilty-Newburn**  
**Vice President.....Katie Webb**  
**Secretary.....Shannon Thomas**  
**Treasurer.....Lori Oleson**

## Board Members

**Trilby Peterson**  
**Dick Carter**  
**Jeanine McCrary**

## Newsletter Editor

**Barbara McCrary**  
[bigcreekranch@wildblue.net](mailto:bigcreekranch@wildblue.net)

## Quicksilver on the Web

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

## President's Message – May 2019

Meeting called to order at 6:34 PM on 4/24/2019 at The Summit House overlooking the sunny Santa Cruz Mountains.

In attendance: Katie Webb, Elisabet Hiatt, Jeanine McCrary, Trilby Peterson, Kathie Brayton, Jill Kilty-Newburn, Michelle Herrera, Lori Oleson, Diane Enderle

**Reports:** Treasurer: Insurance and Taxes are done and the General Fund has \$11,803.35 and the Trail's fund has \$1,074.68.

**Membership:** Some long time "members" still have not paid their dues. If this is you, it has never been easier! Just go to the website [Quicksilver Endurance Riders](http://www.QuicksilverEnduranceRiders.com).

**Technical:** Melissa Broquard is stepping down from her position as web mistress. Elisabet Hiatt showed some interest in possibly taking over. Any other techies out there interested?

**Ride Reports:** Planning for the Fall Classic **10/5/2019** is coming along nicely. We still need volunteers! Please contact me (Shannon Thomas at [ben.shannon@att.net](mailto:ben.shannon@att.net)) so you can join the fall classic team!

**Fireworks!:** Jill reported that they received their first entry! The River crossing is a mess but as usual, this will be sorted out by the time of the ride.

**Endurance Clinic May 5th:** Nick only has 5 entries so far. This is an amazing learning experience. The commercial truck driver that teaches the trailer driving part can teach you to back up like a pro! Let your friends know or maybe attend yourself.

**New Business:** There will be a Linda Tellington-Jones Clinic in Gilroy, June 7-9 at Rancho Ruiz **800-854-8326**. See ad on page 3.

**Old Business:** Honoring our deceased members. There was a discussion on how to do this at the last

# Quicksilver 2018 Calendar



*(Continued from page 1)*

meeting and the club feels strongly that this is the right thing to do. Lori made a motion that the club buy a 1/2 mile of the Tevis trail in memorandum of all our passed members. Jeanine seconded the motion and it is passed unanimously.

**Additional items:** Our next meeting/event will be an ice cream social at Trilby's **1PM June 15th** with Kathie Brayton speaking on the Beamer for horses. (more detail)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15.

*Shannon Thomas, Secretary*

## Treasurer's Report

Checking (General) Account Balance \$11,803.35

Savings (Trails) Account Balance \$1,074.68

## Book Report

*By Julie Suhr*

I have just finished reading for the first time **MAMA'S LAST HUG** by Frans De Waal. I say for the "first time" because I am going to start at page 1 and read all three hundred pages a second time. Perhaps even a third time. It is simply splendid. Mama is a chimpanzee. But the story does not end with her demise in the first few chapters.

The author, a primatologist ( I had to look it up), sheds new light on the diverse emotions of animals, birds and even the fish at the end of your hook. It is a true eye opener, thought provoking and intense. I know it has been on the New York Times best seller list. It deserves that recognition.





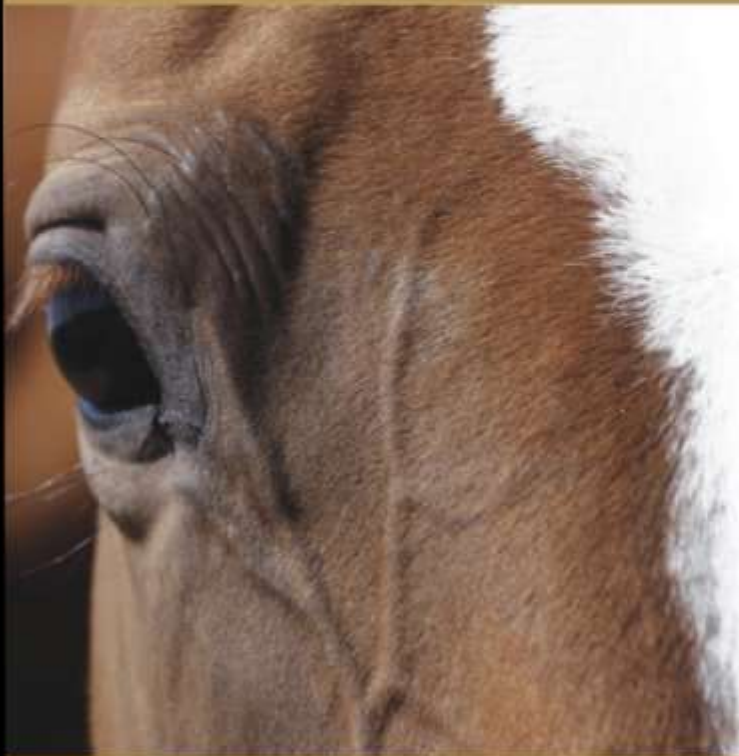
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## *"If you don't buy him, I will..."*

By Elisabet Hiatt

Those were the words Julie Suhr said when I told her I wasn't sure if I should get the cute little horse I had just seen. "If you don't buy him, I will..." Was she kidding? Maybe, maybe not. You just never know with her! Regardless, it was the final little push I needed to make my decision.

But let me go back to the beginning. I had lost my sweet gelding Solo in January of 2017. Quick-silver member Sandy Holder was kind enough to loan me her lovely Tally to keep my other horse, Tango, company, and I started looking for a permanent addition to our family. I have a non-negotiable issue with horses, you see... It has to be a *gelding* and it has to be *gray*. Yes, I know, it's silly, but if I'm going to live out my childhood fantasy, why not live it out to the fullest? Gray gelding or nothing, that's the final deal.

Well, for some reason, it turns out that gray geldings were a lot easier to find 20 years ago, so it took some time and several unsuitable/disappointing prospects before I found one that I liked. Ya Batal (meaning "My Hero" in Egyptian) was a 6 year old Straight Egyptian gray gelding, with about 30 rides in the arena, and one trail ride out in the big world. Having recently broken my back, I was a little hesitant to get such a green horse. I had started the three horses I owned so far, but my body was younger then, and in one piece... did I really want to get into this?

I took some friends with me when I went to see him the first time. I had to walk away for a while and have a good cry in private, since he reminded me so much of my darling Solo. My friends understood. I watched Jody Tuft (Ya Batal's breeder and owner of Valley Horse Center in Dixon, CA) ride him in the arena and he was lovely. I watched one of my friends ride him, and he was lovely. Because of my broken back, I was in too much pain to get on a horse, so I took lots of photos and videos and went home to think about it. I sent them to Julie to see what she thought... "If you don't buy him, I will..." she said.

The horse passed the vet check with flying colors a couple of weeks later, so I put my back brace on and rode him in the arena. He was lovely. "If you don't buy him, I will..." was still bouncing around in my head, so I bought him!

Ya Batal became Echo. He was supposed to be Jody's next stallion, but did not grow to the size she hoped, so at around two years old he was gelded. Our last two years together have been fun and in some ways a bit challenging.

About a year ago, he ran into a cable while running around loose on a trail behind my house. He badly skinned both front legs and we were concerned about a fracture. Fortunately, x-rays were clear, he was never lame and the hair grew back.

About six months ago, he had a bad fall and skinned his right knee clear to the bone. The vets at Steinbeck were very concerned that he had compromised the tendon sheath and gave him a poor recovery prognosis if that was the case. We treated, cleaned, bandaged and kept an eye on it for several months. He has a scar, but no other problems. I despaired a little wondering if this horse would ever be ready for a ride!

He definitely has opinions, but is very kind, and curious as curious can be... but most of all, I think he is an Old Soul. Nothing seems to upset him too much. Generally, his first reaction is to look at things and think about them. He drinks at every opportunity. He will never say no to food. Didn't care about the first time a blanket was put on him. Loads and travels great. Tolerates the beach and high surf fairly well. Loves new trails. Enjoys being in the front, middle or back. Camps like he's done it all his life. Respects the electric fence like a pro... can be a bit stubborn sometimes and hates fly spray (well, nobody is perfect!).

Finally, after what I felt was a reasonable amount of trail riding with increased distances and

*(Continued on page 5)*



(Continued from page 4)

speed, I decided that we were ready for an LD!

The Cuyama Oaks ride was coming up, and since I love "Duck" rides, I set my sight on that. When we arrived, Echo looked around camp and promptly started eating grass. Not a peep all night. I rode on day two with QS member Alicia Stanton and her horse Sparkie as our chaperones, and the ride so completely exceeded my expectations, I actually felt a teensy bit guilty... and definitely a heck of a LOT happy!

Echo had a bit of a melt down at camp the morning of the ride. We were leaving one of his regular trail buddies behind who was screaming due to the fact that HIS pasture buddy was leaving him with rider Shannon Thomas on board. To be on the safe side, I hand walked him for about ¼ mile and things went back to normal once we got out of ear shot. I got on him and from then on, he crossed creeks, walked through bogs, passed horses and was passed with no fussing, climbed some gnarly hills and took great care of himself. We arrived back at camp 5½ hours later, sound and happy, with a 54 heart rate and an elated horse mom.

After a quiet night, we loaded up and came home. I was smiling the whole time... and planning the next ride. We will do a couple more LD's, perhaps two back to back, and then, if all goes well, maybe we will try a 50. More than anything though, we will continue to have a good time out there on the trails, which is what it's really all about!

"If you don't buy him, I will..." Thank you Julie, I'm so glad I bought him! You can borrow him any time you want!

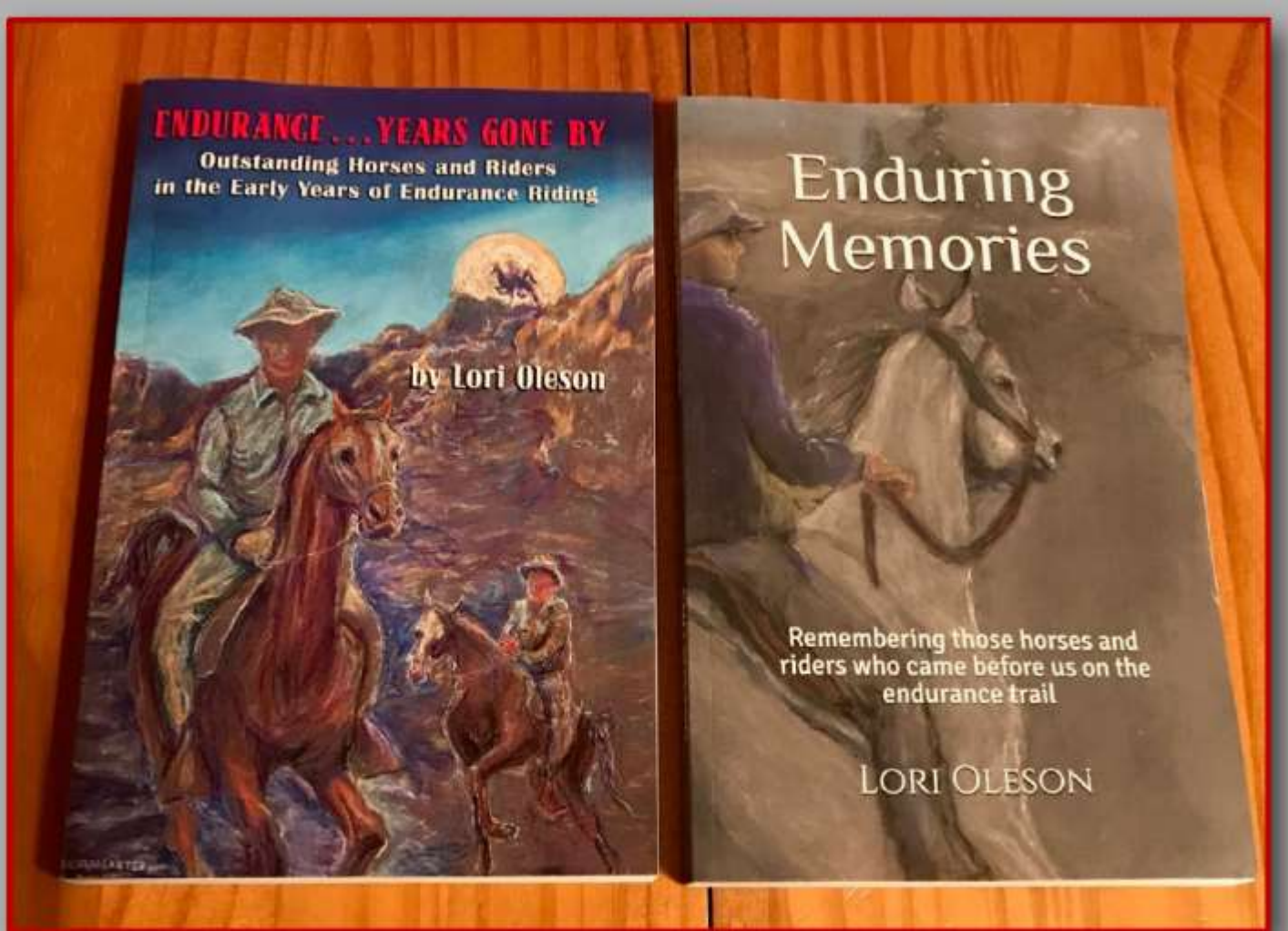
**Editor's note:** Julie has an eye for the good ones. Many years ago, she had a photo of a bay gelding that had been sent to her by Ted Jeary of Hyannis Cattle Co., then re-located to Cave Creek, AZ. "Kunyak" was 4 years old and unbroke. I flew down to Arizona, Ted picked me up at the airport, and we drove back to his ranch. I watched Kunyak run and trot around a large pen and decided to take a chance on him. I sent him to a local trainer here at home, and when he was through there, I brought him to our ranch and started riding him.



He had some problems...He was goosey about the rump for starters, but I put that to advantage on down-hills where he tended to pitch forward instead of tucking under. I would touch him lightly on the rump and he would tuck. He became a great mountain horse in time. He was Lud's horse, and his greatest accomplishment was placing first and BC on all five days of the Apple-gate-Lassen Trail in Nevada with a finish in CA. He was just a super horse, and bay to boot (OUR favorite color.)



## Classifieds and Services



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

[Lori Oleson](#)

### 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.

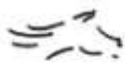
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# Classifieds and Services



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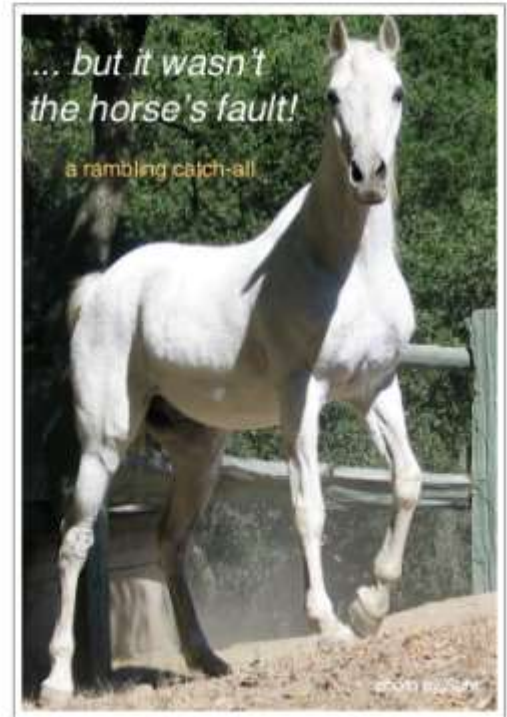
To benefit our trails and our horses, I have written two books. They are entirely different in style.

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



by  
Julie Suhr

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



## "TEN FEET TALL, STILL"

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

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

## **CENTERED RIDING® LESSONS**

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# Classifieds and Services

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Paddock/Stall: \$ 350.00      Pasture: \$ 310.00      Trailer Parking: \$ 25.00

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## Humor and Birthdays



### My Favorite Animal

Our teacher asked what my favorite animal was, and I said, "Fried chicken."

She said I wasn't funny, but she couldn't have been right, because everyone else laughed.

My parents told me to always tell the truth. I did. Fried chicken is my favorite animal.

I told my dad what happened and he said my teacher was probably a member of PETA. He said they love animals very much.

I told him what happened, and he laughed, too. Then he told me not to do it again.

The next day in class my teacher asked me what my favorite live animal was.

I told her it was chicken. She asked me why, so I told her it was because you could make them into fried chicken.

She sent me back to the principal's office.

He laughed, and told me not to do it again.

I don't understand. My parents taught me to be honest, but my teacher doesn't like it when I am.

Today, my teacher asked me to tell her what famous military person I admired most.

I told her, "Colonel Sanders."

Guess where xxxxxxxx I am now...

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

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

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## QUICKSILVER ENDURANCE RIDERS — MEMBERSHIP

Club Mission—Quicksilver exists to promote the sport of endurance riding by conducting endurance rides and advocating for equestrian trails. It seeks to provide a model for the highest levels of sportsmanship and horsemanship within the context of this sport. It supports and provides educational events and leadership in each of these areas.

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Senior Membership \$30

Junior Membership \$20

Family Membership \$45

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

Maryben Stover, 1299 Sandra Drive, San Jose 95125

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

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

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

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



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

**QSER exists to promote the sport of endurance riding by conducting endurance rides and advocating for equestrian trails. It seeks to provide a model for the highest standards of sportsmanship and horsemanship within the context of this sport. It supports and provides educational events and leadership in each of these areas.**

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

