



Quicksilver Quips

June 2015

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Quicksilver on the Web

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

President's Message – June 2015

Let the summer fun begin! On May 20th a bunch of us gathered at Trilby's place for an ice cream social. While the weather was unseasonably cold, this did not deter a hearty group of endurance riders from enjoying banana splits and baked goodies. We even watched part of the Giants/Dodgers baseball game and Trilby gave me at least one reason to appreciate the Dodgers! (Blasphemous in my house, but true.) Thanks to Trilby for hosting!

On June 13th we will have a ride and meeting at Calero County Park; meet at 9 AM to ride and we will have a potluck at noon with the meeting beginning at 12.30. Please bring a dish to share, and join your fellow club members as we socialize and plan for upcoming activities.

I hope that you have the fall Quicksilver Classic on your calendar, either to come out and enjoy the trail with your horse, or to help our ride managers make the event a great success. The date is October 13.

May the trails you travel provide beauty, challenge and adventure!

Jill

Treasurer's Report

From Trilby

Jr. Account \$ 454.38
 Trails Account \$1,074.19
 General Account \$ 6,087.30

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44

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*If your name is not on this list, you are remiss in not sending your renewal application and fees.
List provided by Maryben Stover in April.*

Book Review

I have just finished reading a really great book and it isn't even a horse story. By Brian Doyle, it is titled *Martin Marten*. Martin is a marten, which is sort of a weasel-like forest critter.

That probably does not excite you too much, but it should. The story is set in the Pacific Northwest in a very small community. It covers a period of about a year and a half in the lives of the forest animals and their interactions with the people. It is a philosophical book, extremely thoughtful, with many passages reflecting on life in general and how we all look at it differently. That may sound like burdensome to me, but it is not.

I found it uplifting with pages that made me laugh out loud and others of a more serious nature. There actually is a horse in the story by the name of Edwin, but he plays a minor role, unlike the horses in our lives.

We don't all have a lot of spare time, and maybe this book is not for everybody, but give it a chance.

Julie Suhr

Hooray for Social Media!

My wife was at a regional dressage show last Saturday near Houston when her new 2 horse BP trailer was stolen during the night before the show. It held all her gear as well as an expensive custom dressage saddle. A person still there braiding manes saw a black dually pull up and take it away at midnight.

My wife reported it to the police but their response was - it's probably across the border already.

She posted pictures of the trailer on Facebook and a description of the truck. Also to the online equine groups for stolen equipment.

A Facebook member spotted the trailer/truck on the road Monday morning and messaged her with the description of the area where she saw it. We contacted the local police and within an hour - they had the trailer and the suspect in custody. Plates had been changed and the VIN removed.

Not clear how long it will take to get it back but I'm a firm believer in the power of social networks now.

Mike Maul

Quicksilver 2015 Calendar



**June 13—Calero Park, Ride 9 AM-12 Noon. 12:00 Noon-
Potluck Lunch and Meeting**

Sept. 12—Santa Cruz Horsemen's Campout

Oct. 3—QS Fall Classic Endurance Ride

Oct. 24—Ride wrap-up Meeting and Ride at Henry Coe

Dec. 4th—Christmas Party



Career Change

By Jayne Perryman

Mojo is a strange horse. Father was a Cutting Horse and Mother a Swedish Warmblood known for jumpers. My husband, Dusty, was looking for a replacement for a ranch horse, Charlie, who had done trail riding, ranch horse work and Cowboy Mounted Shooting. Charlie was now retired (wish we could get a clone of Charlie.)

Mojo was a six-year-old quarter horse cross with trail riding experience said the advertisement. When we bought him, the previous owners handing me the papers...Swedish Warmblood...he's a SWB!!

Context, a quarter horse cross is worth about \$2,500 with good solid training. A registered SWB is worth \$15,000+...with a bit of dressage work. Huh??

My husband rode Mojo pretty consistently for two years. Trails, dressage, Cowboy Mounted Shooting. Mojo did great. Then, Mojo did not work so consistently. Dusty stopped riding due to health reasons. Mojo sat in the pasture and did not get the work he deserved.

Mojo got angry when Jenny and I took our Arabs out for an endurance training ride or out for the weekend away for competition. Mojo really wanted to have a job. Really, really wanted a job!

After Jenny completed Tevis 2014, I started working Mojo. He was out of condition, really fat and did not know how to use his body anymore. Every time I took him out of the pasture he would bite me...more than once and I am no wimp. Hit him with a fist, he would flinch and try to bite again.

When I was 20 something, I had a Hanoverian named Dan. This three year old monster who ended up being 18 hands and 1,600 lbs. gave me biting grief for six months...until I would hold a nail (7 + inches long) in the hand nearest to his face...try to bite, I will bite back. Mojo was a quicker study than Dan when it came to biting the hand that feeds you!

Sitting in a pasture had made Mojo sadly fat and out of condition. So the work began. I knew if I rushed the process, his overweight condition would mean lameness. He could no longer trot with the float we saw as a six year old. Diet, work and gentle exercises...from August 2014 until March 2015.

Every time I worked Mojo under saddle or on the lunge line, he would get more expressive and easier to handle. I showed Mojo to several dressage riders, who would pull, grip, spur and whip...sad to see, since Mojo was light and forward – just give him a chance. Riding Arabs and TBs for most of my life taught me that gentle can work if you are patient and willing to have a happy heart. Get one step of what you want—reward. And reward often.

Then a miracle. I got an e-mail...would Mojo be a vaulting horse? Ahhh, I have a simple vaulting rig, we could try it out, I said. Olivia said, I would like to see Mojo. OK!

Mojo stood perfectly still when a modern vaulting rig was put on. He was calm when the vaulting handler lunged him. Then one of the two vaulters hopped on and proceeded to do the compulsory moves which did not concern Mojo. When they put a second vaulter on Mojo, I am happy to say, no issues. Really, stand up on my back with two riders at the canter...what's the problem? No problem, per Mojo!

Mojo is now a competition and lesson horse in Vaulting. He works five to six days per week (trust me, if Mojo could work eight days per week...he would). His motivation is based on the little girls and boys learning vaulting on his back every day. They love him and he loves them. Mojo, you ROCK!



Mojo, with Emma as the handler and Carolyn and Olivia putting Mojo through his paces



Mojo at the Garrod Farms Spring Classic Vaulting Competition. The girl is about to jump on him while he trots about the circle

Happy Birthday to Cor Fire: "Cory"

By Kiki Leuther

(Cory is by Corsair [by Comet], out of April Fire (Witez – Abu Farwa line); Cory is one of the last remaining Comet grandsons).

Cory turned 33 on May 7th, and this inspired me to write about him. I have attached a couple of pictures of him taken just a few days ago. 33 years is certainly an advanced age for a horse, and I joke that he is way past his expiration date. But luckily he doesn't know that. Acting his age has never been a strong point for him.

See, I must make a confession here: Cory isn't really my horse. That's because Cory is my soulmate. One of those once-in-a-lifetime equine-human connections.

Cory is our retired 100-mile endurance horse, but for the last decade or so, he has been our all-around ranch horse, pony for visitors, therapy horse, trouble maker, and grounding force. Cory is the horse I tack up when there are cows to be moved. Sometimes I think I don't even need to get on. Cory will move the cows without input from me, with respectful slow approaches when appropriate, or power and speed when needed. Looking for lost park visitors in the adjacent 10,000 acre county park? Take Cory. Looking for a neighbor's lost sheep? Take Cory. Lost horse in the park? Take Cory. Help with county park event including life flight duty? Take Cory.

Cory is the horse I tack up when we have visitors who would like to go on a pony ride. Cory will be the perfect babysitter for the littlest kids, but will also give adults a little ride if they want to give it a try. When he feels that someone is slipping off his back, or feels insecure, he will not move. I choose to lead him, but really, no input is required from me.

This is in stark contrast to my rides with him! We still go on a trail ride once a week, usually a 5 mile ride in the hills around our ranch. On these rides, Cory is his usual self, the way he was as an endurance horse. His motto is "get on, sit down, shut up, and hang on". We warm up for about 1 mile, and then he will canter and gallop for 4 miles. Yes, I try to control his speed; yes, I do stop him from cantering downhill. But he is pulling my arms out, paws and stomps the ground when we stop for any reason, canters sideways when we don't go fast enough, and generally behaves like the lunatic he has always been.

Cory is the horse I ride when I'm having a bad day. He somehow knows how to run fast enough so that those tears are wiped right off my face by the wind. Canterng the trails with my arms stretched out (Kate Winslet Titanic style), just feeling his powerful stride, is a joy.

I am truly blessed to have Cory as my equine soulmate. Happy Birthday to Cory! May we all be so lucky to have an equine companion like Cory.

A grateful human,

Kiki



Photos From Lost Padres Ride



Lori Oleson on "Rosie"



Janet Webb, Katie's mom, on "Milly"

Katie Webb on "Stevie"



Katie's entry on Facebook the day after her completion of "Run for the Gold" 50-miler on Saturday, May 30th.



Had a fantastic 50-miler yesterday! Stevie is growing into her new job as an endurance horse in leaps and bounds. I'm so impressed with the progress she's made since her first race last month! She was very bright eyed and bouncy this morning 😊👍📅

Point Reyes, - 2015

Spent a nice 4 day weekend at Point Reyes with a bunch of absolutely wonderful folks. The trails were gorgeous, the grass was tall and green, the wildflowers were out en force and the weather was perfect... and then there were our little neighbor girls.

The Devil's Gulch Horse camp has three areas. The horse area is the largest, with 8 pipe corrals and 3 paddocks. Room for about 6-8 rigs to park comfortably. Down the road, there are 2 more camps, much smaller and only for car/tent camping.

Our neighbors for the weekend were several families with a bunch of young girls who promptly fell in love with our horses. It didn't take much to get them excited. I asked one of them if they wanted to help me feed my horses... OH YES!!! All of them volunteered. Well, food in, poop out, so... anyone interested in helping me clean poop, I asked? OH YES!!! More volunteers... and so it went. Our corrals were magically clean and our water buckets were filled every day we got back from our rides! Cool.

Such wonderful deeds were rewarded with horsey rides on day three. One after the other they got to ride my "good will (and bomb proof) ambassador" horse Solo. Parents and cameras came out and smiles were broad. The girls had a great time and Solo got groomed, braided, petted and probably fed way too many carrots, but it was fun. They loved his sparkly red Easy boots, too.

One of my friends posed with the girls sometime while I was out riding and just sent me this photo.

I know that had I been one of those girls, I would not forget that weekend easily. I was 4 when I fell in love with horses after my very first ride... who knows... perhaps a few years from now, they will be riding their own horses and advocating for our trails. Share the passion!

Elisabet Hiatt



Adventures in Another World

I visited Turkey on a 9-day riding vacation in mid-May in the region called "Cappadocia," a semi-arid region in central Turkey. It is full of otherworldly natural sites, most notably the "fairy chimneys," tall, cone-shaped rock formations clustered in Monks Valley and elsewhere.

Popular for exploration are Bronze Age homes carved into valley walls by troglodytes (cave dwellers) and later used as refuges by early Christians.

While the stable was named Akhal-Teke, our horses were Anatolian-Arabian crosses and fun to ride. All were mares and mine was named Kalebek or Butterfly in Turkish. Four days of the trip were camping and the others were in hotels carved out of the soft volcanic rock. The group was four Germans and me. The Germans all spoke English well so I was included in the conversation.

There were some long fast canters and gallops but a lot of the terrain was steep up and down so handled at a walk. We would typically ride 5-7 hours a day. We had side trips—a balloon ride, Turkish hot bath, rug weaving, pottery making, a whirling dervish ritual, and visits to early Christian monasteries. One day we stopped for lunch at a trout fishery where the trout were taken out and cooked just before we ate.

The terrain was all produced by a 12,000 ft. volcano 9,000 years ago just 40 miles away. The rock is soft enough to be carved by hand-tools as you can see in the photos. We camped one night in a carved out cave shown in the photo. The image with the door was my hotel room for several nights. The tall spires are the fairy chimneys and you can see the carved out areas in the monasteries where monks might live for years in seclusion.

It was a great opportunity to see a very different culture and get some riding as well.

By Mike Maul



More photos on page 8

Mike's hotel room!

Photos of Mike's Trip to Turkey



Classifieds



BOOKS ARE THE PERFECT GIFT!



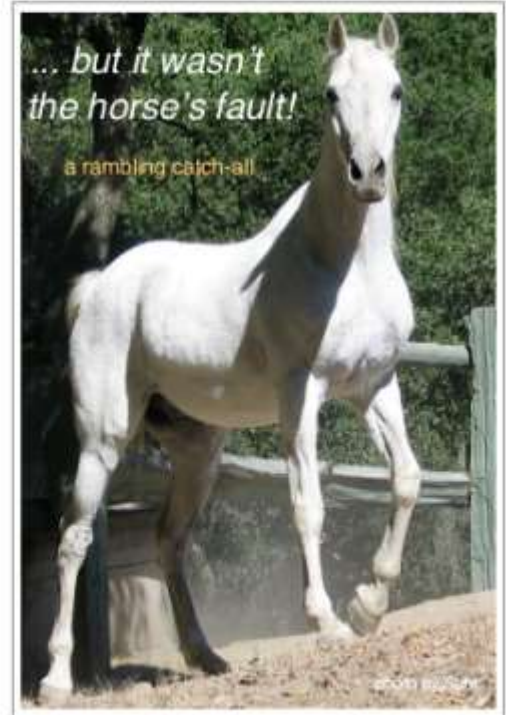
To benefit our trails and our horses, I have written two books. They are entirely different in style.

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

FOR SALE

Saddle: lightly used, hard-to-find Stübben Survival. 18-inch seat. \$800

Michele Roush Rowe (530) 292-1902 bcm@gv.net

WANTED

I would like to buy an inexpensive bumper pull horse trailer in good condition for local riding. My main horse is 16.1 hands. Please email me pictures, a description and your phone number to

GentlemanRancher@Gmail.com

Classifieds

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My place borders Quicksilver Park.

Trilby – (408) 997-7500



HORSE BOARDING—PERFECT FOR ENDURANCE HORSES ALMADEN AREA (photo above)

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

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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**

Humor and Birthdays

One day an old German Shepherd starts chasing rabbits and before long, discovers that he's lost. Wandering about, he notices a puma heading rapidly in his direction with the intention of having lunch.

The old German Shepherd thinks, "Oh, oh! I'm in deep trouble now!"

Noticing some bones on the ground close by, he immediately settles down to chew on the bones with his back to the approaching cat. Just as the puma is about to leap, the old German Shepherd exclaims loudly, "Boy, that was one delicious puma! I wonder if there are any more around here?"

Hearing this, the young puma halts his attack in mid-strike, a look of terror comes over him and he slinks away into the trees.

"Whew!" says the puma, "That was close! That old German Shepherd nearly had me!"

Meanwhile, a squirrel who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree, figures he can put this knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the puma. So, off he goes.

The squirrel soon catches up with the puma, spills the beans and strikes a deal for himself with the puma.

The young puma is furious at being made a fool of and says, "Here, squirrel, hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine!"

Now, the old German Shepherd sees the puma coming with the squirrel on his back and thinks, "What am I going to do now?," but instead of running, the dog sits down with his back to his attackers, pretending he hasn't seen them yet, and just when they get close enough to hear, the old German Shepherd says...

"Where's that damn squirrel? I sent him off an hour ago to bring me another puma!"

The moral of this story is: Don't mess with the old dogs ... Age and skill will always overcome youth and treachery! BS and brilliance only come with age and experience.



Happy June Birthdays to our Quicksilver Members and Endurance Friends

Michele Roush	4
Jeff Luternauer	6
Michelle Herrera	11
Alex North	26
Susie Hartline	26
Lud McCrary	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
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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.
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