



Quicksilver Quips

July 2011

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July President's Message

My new puppy loves poop... and I mean he LOOOVES poop.... Horse poop, deer poop, cat poop, coyote poop... you name it poop and he eats it, and then he wants to lick my face! Eeeww... This has nothing to do with the club, I just had to share.

June is come and gone, and Summer has officially started! Woo-hoooo!!! We've gone for a whole week without rain! Corrals are dry and I swear I will not, will not, will NOT complain about dust. Longer days mean decent rides after work and the flowers along the trails are awesome.... Plus everything is still pretty green. I hope you are getting out there and enjoying the beauty.

We had a great club ride/pot luck at Canada Del Oro open spaces on 6/18. I am really sorry that many of you missed it. There were 13 of us there, 8 riding and 5 came for the pot luck. There are a few pictures somewhere in the newsletter. Great food and great riding trails. I had never been there, and I'm glad I went. The views from the top were spectacular. Kathy Brayton rides there all the time and she was my and Elaine Elbizri's (who rode my horse Tango) "tour guide". Lori Oleson and a friend rode a faster loop, Cathy Kauer and Sandy Holder (with "baby" in tow) went for a shorter, mellower ride, and Janice Frazier went on her own after dinner. Maryben (who graciously picked up the surprisingly good KFC), Lucinda Havart-Simkin and her husband Peter, Elaine's friend Barbara, and Scott Sansom came for the pot luck. We also had a visit from a very talkative park aid that asked many questions about our group and informed us that there will be new trails opening soon in that area. Cool, new places to explore!

We had a super short meeting, just a few announcements:

Remember August 12-13 is our campout at McCrary's. I hope many of you can make it to that and re-visit some of the wonderful Castle Rock trails.

Our club ride will be on September 17. We will need volunteers as well as riders! All the paperwork has been sent to the park people, we are good to go.

We want to put on an endurance clinic in October, maybe at Calero. Again, we cannot do this without member participation. So far, Lori O. and Pat V. are on board... how about YOU?

Elaine is riding part of the XP ride with Judith and is soliciting sponsors for Canter for the Cure. If you haven't already sponsored someone, here's your chance.

Before you know it, we'll be planning our Christmas party... time flies when you are having fun. I hope that before the year ends, most of you can join us in one or more club events coming up! It's your club, get involved!

Finally, we all want to send our love, good thoughts and prayers to Karla and Patrick. If there is anything we can do to help, please let us know. We're here for you.

Elisabet



**Quicksilver members enjoying the ride/
BBQ at Canada del Oro on June 18th.**

**Elaine Elbizri on Elisabet Hiatt's horse "Tango"
and Elisabet on her horse "Solo"**



**Elaine Elbizri on "Tango"
and Kathy Brayton on "Bart"**

News Notes From Members

SA IBN SAAM (known as Ibn) Steve Lenheim's horse, colicked and was put down Wednesday, June 8th.. He was 26 and had carried Steve to a Tevis finish.

Maryben received this message from Melissa Ribley:

Dr. Carroll was my family's veterinarian for many years in San Jose. He took care of Buttermilk, Chance and then Fred. I thought you would want to see the following, sent from Dr. Greg Fellers:

I have been slow in getting out a note about one of our true veterinary endurance forerunners. Dr. Gene Carroll, who practiced in the San Jose area all of his career (and was my boss from 1973 to 1976) passed away on May 10th after a short battle with pancreatic cancer. He served on the veterinary committee for Tevis for many years in the 60's, 70's and 80's. He introduced me to vetting endurance rides at the Castlerock Ride back in about 1974. He was my first boss after I finished my internship and a true mentor for me. We have remained close friends all these years. He and Barbara had moved to Colorado Springs several years ago to be close to the girls and grandkids. We had a chance to visit them back there about 3 years ago, and they still came out to California every year.

Keep Barbara in your prayers as she is really having a tough time. She is in the hospital suffering from exhaustion, stress and pneumonia. There has been a service for Gene in Colorado Springs already, but the family hopes to have a celebration of his life here in California as well. The timing will depend on how well Barbara recovers. I'll let anyone interested know about the details.

Regards, Greg

Here is the address for Barbara (wife) and Lani and Debbie (daughters):

4099 Stonebridge Pointe, Colorado Springs, CO 80904

From Lori McIntosh:

Nothing like a helicopter from CalStar popping down in your front yard. Had a busy day running up and down our road opening the gate for the fire truck, then the sheriff, then the ambulance. Lots of men in uniform visiting me today. Yes, this is horse related. A lady down the street was riding a friend's horse and took a bad tumble. This is a good reminder to get CalStar insurance after checking to see if your health insurance will cover it. This was a \$7000 landing, the ambulance ride to the edge of the road with the tiny white things (the pilot's helmets) from down the road, about 1/4 mile was \$1200. Glad I was home to make sure the boys could handle all the excitement. →



From Judith Ogus:

My tough little grey mare Maggie, who is currently retired from endurance, had a Gulastra's Knight baby at Sharon and Gordon Westergard's on June 2nd. Here is a photo Sharon took with her iPhone. As of now, the Westergard's are keeping him. Becky and I want to name him Knight's Splash Gordon - to reference his grand sire, sire, and Pop Westergard.

From Elaine Elbizri:

Ticks, Ticks, Ticks - a new way to deal!

I counted 20-30 ticks on each of my horses legs after my first trail ride this Spring.

My short version of my invention (unless you already figured it out) of how to get rid of the pesky blighters: When going out on a trail polo wrap your horses legs, ticks crawl into the wraps to get a safe ride back to the stable. As you take the wraps off carefully roll the ticks into them. Put the wraps in a plastic bag close the bag and leave it in the sun for 24 hours.

Here is the long version of my discovery for those who like stories:

My horse Katie is recovering from a hind leg ligament injury. For this reason I wrap her hind legs when riding. Because of the injury we have been confined to riding around the ranch for several months. So going out on a trail in the park this Spring was a big deal for both of us. The thistles, mustard, grasses hiding the trails reached up to my waist on a 16h horse. Finding a huge amount of ticks hiding in the wraps on return to the ranch was another surprise.

A few days later I saw a vet and told him what a terrible year this is for ticks, and something about the number I found on Katie. He said try Equi-spot, something you put along your horses neck and back and it will keep the ticks away for one month. I dutifully paid my \$20 and tried the treatment - two days later Katie had lumps and swellings on her neck and back. I quickly scrubbed the stuff off and an idea came to me - if I wrapped all four legs when we went to the park I could catch all the ticks and not just those on the hind legs.

Sure enough after our second trail ride there were lots of ticks carefully tucked away in the wraps. I rolled up the wraps and put them in a plastic bag thinking I would take them home and sit out in the garden in the evening to pick those ticks with tweezers and put them in a bottle of alcohol. Ticks swim in water so I couldn't drown them. Well I put the bag of wraps on a table outside when I got home and then forgot all about them. Next evening when I got home and actually sat down to deal with the ticks I found they were all stretched out quite dead.

I only found one tick after our ride in the middle of June but I'll be wrapping legs again next Spring.

From Lori Oleson:

Lake Sonoma was held in June for the first time this year. Not only the date changed, but so did the trails. There are still plenty of beautiful tree-covered single-track trails and many wonderful views of the lake. The difference is more wide road and several climbs.

At the completion of this year's ride, Flame (20 years old) was retired. He did his first 50 at Mt Diablo in 1996, 15 years ago. Flame retires with 4,495 miles and he is sound, healthy and happy. I rode him throughout California but also in Nevada, Arizona and Utah. Flame's favorite rides were one-day 50's and 3-day multi-days. He completed nine 100 mile rides including Tevis once and 2 top ten's at Swanton. Flame had a happy, cheerful attitude throughout his career. It's hard to believe that it is over.

How Horsemanship Techniques Can Help Doctors Improve Their Art

Lia Steakley on June 24th, 2011, from Stanford School of Medicine's publication, "Scope"

Since 2006, medical students at Stanford have been working with horses to develop a greater awareness of the subtleties of self-presentation and communication that are necessary for the physician-patient relationship. The class, titled "Medicine and Horsemanship," draws on core principles of the Natural Horsemanship, a philosophy of training horses made famous by real-life horse whisperer Buck Brannaman.

Today marks the Bay Area opening of BUCK, a new documentary about Brannaman's personal story and zen-like approach to interpersonal relationships between humans and horses. Interested to know more about how Brannaman's teachings are used in a health-care setting, I contacted **Beverley Kane, MD**, Medicine and Horsemanship program director at Stanford. Below Kane discusses how working with horses strengthens medical students nonverbal communication skills and how the principles of Natural Horsemanship translate to a health-care environment.

How can horsemanship help doctors be better communicators?

Horses are exquisitely sensitive to how we present ourselves. They pick up on every nuance of body language. They can even sense our emotions, especially when what we say is not what we mean or feel. As mirrors to our intents and behaviors, they will always let us know how we appear to them. In learning to notice the horse's responses, medical students are trained to become more aware of how patients respond, even when patients are too polite to raise objections in so many words. Does the patient wince at the cold stethoscope? Does she withdraw if the doctor is violating her personal and cultural boundaries? Does she feel ignored or disrespected? Horses are not afraid to tell us all of these things by laying back their ears or simply walking away.

One of the most popular sessions is the physical exam of the horse taught by our equine veterinarian. Students learn to approach the horse slowly and gently, constantly checking in with ears, tail, and other body parts to see how the horse responds to being examined. We ask the students, if patients could lay back their ears, what would they tell us?

The Medicine and Horsemanship class draws on principles developed by Brannaman. What are one or two examples of these techniques and how do they translate to a health-care environment?

Brannaman, who derived his principles from the giants of Natural Horsemanship of the past, bases his work with horses and people on a few main principles:

Break the task down into smaller tasks that the horse can understand.

Use pressure and release to teach each part of each task. Pressure is the ask. Release is the reward for attempting the task.

Reward the smallest try, by release of pressure, even if the head or foot moves half an inch in the desired direction. Release is going back to the last place the horse felt comfortable.

Relationship is the most important aspect of horsemanship. It is not the equipment or technique, it is the quality of relationship, feeling and communication.

In Medicine and Horsemanship, everything we ask of a horse is informed by those principles. A favorite exercise is an activity we do during Halloween week called “UNinformed Consent”. Students attempt to get the horses through obstacles that are scary to them but no-brainers to us—a flapping silvery space blanket, balloons, scarecrow, etc. The students have to be extremely patient and slowly build up trust. The horse’s fear and resistance is a metaphor for patients who have to undergo scary procedures—anything from a simple phlebotomy (blood draw) to someone with needle phobia to major surgery. We know we can’t get the horse through the scary thing all at once. If he even looks at it, we release the pressure and take him back where he felt comfortable. That way, we slowly gain his trust.

One student who was doing a year of clinical oncology research had been trying for months to get a patient to consent to chemotherapy. To the student, it was a no-brainer intellectually and statistically. But the patient wouldn’t budge. After “UNinformed Consent”, the student finally understood and empathized with her patient’s fears, realizing she couldn’t appeal to the patient by constantly pressuring her and only on rational grounds.

In the film, Brannaman says, “Your horse is a mirror to your soul, and sometimes you may not like what you see. Sometimes, you might.” Have you found this to be true in teaching the Medicine and Horsemanship class?

Yes, the horses respond to who we are inside, not to a titles or appearances. An important corollary to what Brannaman says is that horses do not *judge* what they find in our souls. They accept us for who we are. As long as we are honest and congruent they want to relate to us. The key is for *us* to be aware of what’s in our souls, what the horses are seeing.

Because we meet over a period of several weeks the group evolves a certain amount of trust and familiarity. The first week, we teach a horsemanship practice called “Leave It At The Gate”. Every time a horseman works with a horse, and especially for that crucial five minutes in a horse show, he has to rid himself of all distractions—worries, physical annoyances, emotions, and anything else that would break his connection to the horse. Not that these thoughts and bothers get swept under the rug. They are acknowledged and left at the gate to the arena or corral for just those few minutes. Each week in the class, we state what we are leaving at gate so that we can be fully present for ourselves, each other and the horses. As the course progresses, students and facilitators become more candid about what they’re leaving at the gate. By analogy, we teach students that before they enter a patient exam room they need to take inventory of what they are leaving at the gate so they can be fully present for the patient.

The facilitator’s job is to notice objectively what the horses are doing, help the students interpret the horses’ behavior and ask students to consider—not necessarily share aloud—what other aspects of their professional and personal lives are coming up in that moment. Only the student can say what the horse is seeing in his soul.

Now in its eighth year at Stanford School of Medicine, the Medicine and Horsemanship class has been replicated nationwide. Over the years, how has this class evolved?

There are three ways the class has changed over the years. The first is by introducing more principles from Natural Horsemanship. In the early years, we tried to avoid making the class about horsemanship techniques because there is too much dogma about right and wrong techniques in the horse-training world that we come from. But when we realized we could use the principles of good horsemanship, with its emphasis on building relationships and trust, we came back to horsemanship. That is the message of the movie BUCK. It’s not about which bit or stick (stethoscope or reflex hammer) you use, it’s about the *process* of relationship building.

Second, we now place more emphasis on the somatic, or body awareness, aspects of equine-assisted learning. Stanford physician Abraham Verghese, MD, says, “Medical students are so left brained, they list to one side.” Medicine and Horsemanship balances intellectual activity with an awareness of sensory input from one’s own body as a way to stay centered and grounded, keeping impatience and anger in containment during patient encounters.

Third, we added an emphasis on development of leadership. When I went to med school at UC San Francisco in the late 70s this was not something that was considered important. But now that most physicians are employees in large medical centers with hierarchical organizational charts, good leadership and followership are necessary qualities. Physicians must lead themselves, their patients and their teams. Horses demand strong leaders in the herd and among their humans. Many of our activities now focus on leadership skills.

Kane and colleagues will be at select movie theaters hosting information tables in to educate the public about equine-assisted learning, including Medicine and Horsemanship.

Beverly Kane is one of our own Quicksilver Endurance Riders members

Can Horses Break the Speed Barrier?

In a fifty-year span, the four-minute mile went from a human milestone to a starting point for elite runners. The record for the mile has dropped a whopping 17 seconds since Roger Bannister first broke four minutes in 1954. But in horse racing, the two-minute mile-and-a-quarter is still the Holy Grail, almost 30 years after Secretariat ran 1:59:40 at the Kentucky Derby in 1973. Only one other racehorse, Monarchos, has broken the barrier since then—at Churchill Downs in 2001.

Why? Or perhaps, why not?

Harness horses have gotten faster, but not Thoroughbreds. In fact, if Secretariat somehow trotted onto your TV screen at the Belmont Stakes this weekend, he wouldn't look much different than the other horses. But if the fastest man in the world in 1984, American sprinter Carl Lewis, time-traveled and lined up next to the fastest man in the world now, Usain Bolt, he'd look kind of small. Lewis was 6'3" and 180 lbs.; Bolt is 6'5" and 207 lbs. granted, bigger doesn't always mean faster. Maurice Green was only 5'9". But over time, humans get taller and their strides get longer. Not so with horses. ThePostGame brings you the most interesting sports stories on the web. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter to read them first. @Post_Game

Cynics will say the difference in human performance is drugs—illegal drugs. And although that can't be ruled out completely, that charge is not necessarily fair and not necessarily true. And besides, there are rumors about horse juicing as well as human juicing. So it's best to look at some indisputable differences.

Like shoes...Track shoes have advanced rapidly over the years and now weigh mere ounces. Michael Johnson's famous golden spikes from 1996 weighed a quarter-pound and would be considered on the heavy side next year at the London Games. But the horseshoes worn at the Belmont this weekend are basically the same as those worn decades ago. "Aluminum shoes have been around for 50 years now," says longtime racetrack veterinarian Luis Castro.

Now go beneath the shoes. Olympic runners a century ago, in the "Chariots of Fire" era, ran on the equivalent of loose gravel. Now the tracks are so advanced that they almost feel like trampolines beneath your feet. Horses run on dirt track, then as now. Put a horse on a polyurethane track, though, and watch times plummet.

But there's a reason horses still run on softer surfaces like grass and dirt, and that brings us to the biggest reason horses haven't gotten faster—their legs.

"A horse's legs can't really take the torque and pounding that a human leg can," says Castro. "It's like running on your middle finger and the hoof is the fingernail. The human foot is so complex, with multiple bones. The horse foot is one digit, one ligament, one tendon. There's a limit to what a horse can do without injuring itself.

And while a human leg injury can heal over time, racehorses who suffer serious leg injuries must often be put down. So while human racing is a win-or-lose affair, horse racing can be a life-or-death situation. Since so much money and time is invested in every top Thoroughbred, it's not worth the extra risk to break a track record.

And let's remember, human runners are in their teens and 20s. Triple Crown contenders are age three (equivalent to human age 9). Humans want to be known as the G.O.A.T.—greatest of all time. Horses just want to run faster than the next horse.

"People have tried interval training, like on humans," says Castro. "the problem is these horses are pretty young developmentally. A lot of times when you find something that works and doesn't hurt the horse, it's hard to change."

And racehorses are bred from only six percent of the total stock anyway, so the small gene pool doesn't really lend itself to generational change.

"We have made advancements," says Animal Kingdom trainer Graham Motion, "but there's only so much you can do with a horse."

Submitted by Julie Suhr

Emma McCrary, founder and manager of the Swanton NATRC for 35 years, passed away at her home on June 24th with her family at her side. She was 80 years old.

She had been a horsewoman since her teens, and when she married H. T. (Bud) McCrary in 1948, she brought her childhood mare with her to live in Swanton. She and Bud designed and built numerous trails, both in Swanton and in State Parks in Santa Cruz County. That was her lasting legacy to riders and hikers everywhere. She was a director and long-time member of the **Santa Cruz County Horsemen's Association**.

She leaves two sisters and a brother, her husband Bud McCrary, son Ken McCrary and his wife, Jeanine of Swanton, daughters Carol Chambers of Grass Valley and Emmilou Hightower of Watsonville, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren (I think), brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Lud and Barbara McCrary, and many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Her drive and enthusiasm will be sadly missed in the world of all the horsemen who knew and loved her.

Submitted by Barbara McCrary

Equestrians, Ranchers! Boarding Facilities!

Go Green at your place

Donate your



Baling Twine

To Trash for Trails



Recycling creates cleaner facilities,
less land fill,

and new recycled products!



Proceeds to help maintain and expand our trails as well as help the environment

Contact Diane Offutt, California State Horsemen's Association Trail Rep,

at dianeocr@sbcglobal.net 925-833-8636

Collected at Owl's Crossing Ranch Pleasanton CA



Would Quicksilver members establish a collection center and transport baling twine to the above location? It's worth the effort! Who lives, or works, near Pleasanton, and could do this for the club and the environment?

Classifieds...

1977 Toterhome with a rebuilt 88 International engine and a new 4 speed Allison Transmission. Runs great. Has a nice living space with a large fridge. Price reduced to \$5,000.

Heather Reynolds
408-687-7082

Deluxe Endurance Halter Bridle Combination and Deluxe Endurance Breastplate by Zilco. Both are burgundy. Like new. \$150 for both.

Kathy Brayton

NEW Portable Corral System

Backed by Parelli and others. Light weight, very easy to set up, attaches to your trailer. Call or email me and I can send a short video presentation.

Wendy Ebster
horsewife@ymail.com

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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**

Price lowered to \$1000 including mohair girth 22", standard fenders worth \$205 or if you prefer standard stirrup leathers worth \$120 and E-Z stirrups from Specialized saddles. The seat is an 18" Classic X that has a slightly built up cantle and moulded "poles" worth \$315 new.

Lori McIntosh - Cell #: 415-235-5246



Senior Citizen Care-giver

English Speaking, reliable, dependable, honest person seeking employment as a senior citizen/handicap companion helper. Light housekeeping, good cook. No alcohol, no smoking and no drugs. Gilroy, San Martin areas. References upon request. Contact:

Susie Sotelo - Cell #: 408-607-9436

FOR SALE

Truck and camper - 2004 Ford F350 4x4 diesel 34,000 miles and 2005 Lance 920 camper. Both in great shape. \$34,000. Will sell as a unit or separately.

Logan Coach 1989 -Two horse straight load ramp. Well used but still solid. \$1800

Must sell. **(831) 419-6877**



For sale: BCR Katerina Bey
#2A337107-1999 ¾ Arab bay mare, 15 hands, Echstrordinary X Fad-Tiffany. Sweepstakes nominated. Price \$3,500/OBO

Has had lots of training (including Natural Horsemanship) but has no one to ride her at present. Strong uphill horse, very balanced downhill, surefooted, has considerable trail experience. Friendly, easy to catch, lovely ground manners. Very light and responsive; collected, forward trot. Best with experienced, light-handed rider. Will make a great endurance horse. Video available.

Barbara McCrary
831-423-4572
bigcreekranch@wildblue.net

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

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Horse Boarding Facility

20535 Rome Drive, San Jose, California.
 Stalls: \$270.00, pasture \$200.00, fed twice a day high-grade oat and alfalfa.
 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

FOR SALE

Specialized Saddle, International model. 16" western measure, equivalent to 18" English seat. Black with attractive tooling on the edges. Barely used. Doesn't fit me. Will sell with a Haf pad that fits it perfectly. Cost new, around \$2000, will sell for \$1500.

Barbara McCrary 831-423-4572
bigcreekranch@wildblue.net

For Sale

Circle J Bronco slant load 2005 2 horse trailer it has drop down windows on head side and bus sliders on tail side. (No photo) **\$5,000**

Contact
Tracy 408-391-8912
tracy.hofstrand@gmail.com

Wanted: cheap heart monitor, basic model. **[Elisabet lazo@ucsc.edu](mailto:Elisabet.lazo@ucsc.edu)**
831-234-4732

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 **\$700.**

Heather Reynolds 408-687-7082

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, never used. Stirrups not included.
Becky Hart, 408-425-5860 or **Maryben Stover 408-265-0839**



Humor

THE ZEN of SARCASM

- 19. Generally speaking, you aren't learning much when your lips are moving.
 - 20. Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.
- AND...
- 21. Never, under any circumstances, take a sleeping pill and a laxative on the same night.

Thanks to Ellen Rinde

Will Rogers, who died in a 1935 plane crash, was one of the greatest political sages this country has ever known. Some of his sayings:

- 1. Never slap a man who's chewing tobacco.
- 2. Never kick a cow chip on a hot day.
- 3. There are two theories to arguing with a woman. Neither works.
- 4. Never miss a good chance to shut up.
- 5. Always drink upstream from the herd.
- 6. If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging.
- 7. The quickest way to double your money is to fold it and put it back into your pocket.
- 8. There are three kinds of men:
The ones that learn by reading.
The few who learn by observation.
The rest of them have to pee on the electric fence and find out for themselves.
- 9. Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.

Thanks to Elisabet Hiatt

July

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
bigcreekranch@wildblue.net



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

Computer Problems

Your editor has a new computer that crashed three times in the first 2-1/2 months. I've been working with computers since 1983, and even I am not this clueless!

Tech Support: *What's on your monitor now, ma'am?*

Customer: *A teddy bear that my boyfriend bought for me at the 7-11 store.*

Customer: *My keyboard is not working anymore.*

Tech Support: *Are you sure your keyboard is plugged into the computer?*

Customer: *No. I can't get behind the computer.*

Tech Support: *Pick up your keyboard and take ten Steps backwards.*

Customer: *Okay.*

Tech Support: *Did the keyboard come with you?*

Customer: *Yes.*

Tech Support: *That means the keyboard is not plugged in. Is there another keyboard?*

Customer: *Yes, there's another one here. Wait a moment please. Ah, that one does work. Thanks.*

Tech Support: *Your password is the small letter 'a' as in Apple, a capital letter 'V' as in Victor, and the number '7'.*

Customer: *Is that '7' in capital letters?*

Customer: *I can't get on the Internet.*

Tech Support: *Are you absolutely sure you used the Correct password?*

Customer: *Yes, I'm sure. I saw my co-worker do it.*

Tech Support: *Can you tell me what the password was?*

Customer: *Five dots.*

There is no way you can begin a sentence with "Even you..." and not have it end as an insult.

Try it!

Happy July Birthday to our Quicksilver Members and Endurance Friends

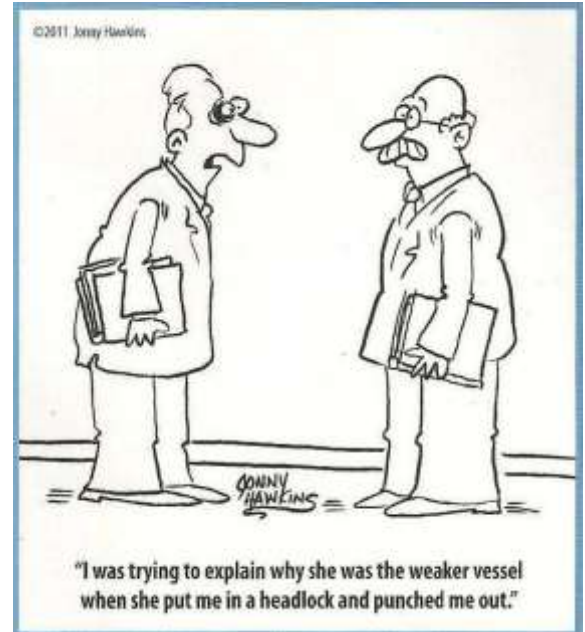
Elisabet Hiatt	2
Judith Ogus	12
Scott Sansom	15
Steve McCorkle	22
Diane Trefethen	26

Humor

An ode to English Plurals

We'll begin with a box, and the plural is boxes,
But the plural of ox becomes oxen, not oxes.
One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese,
Yet the plural of moose should never be meese.
You may find a lone mouse or a nest full of mice,
Yet the plural of house is houses, not hice.
If the plural of man is always called men,
Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?
If I speak of my foot and show you my feet,
And I give you a boot, would a pair be called beet?
If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth,
Why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?
Then one may be that, and three would be those,
Yet hat in the plural would never be hose,
And the plural of cat is cats, not cose.
We speak of a brother and also of brethren,
But though we say mother, we never say methren.
Then the masculine pronouns are he, his and him,
But imagine the feminine: she, shis and shim!
Let's face it - English is a crazy language.
There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger;
neither apple nor pine in pineapple.
English muffins weren't invented in England.
We take English for granted, but if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square, and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.
And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham?
Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend.
If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?
If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught?
If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?
Sometimes I think all the folks who grew up speaking English should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane.
In what other language do people recite at a play and play at a recital?
We ship by truck but send cargo by ship.
We have noses that run and feet that smell.
We park in a driveway and drive in a parkway.
And how can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same,
while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?
You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down,
in which you fill in a form by filling it out, and in which an alarm goes off by going on.
And in closing, if Father is Pop, how come Mother's not Mop?

Cartoon courtesy of Elisabet Hiatt



Red, *White* and
Blue for July 4th



Julie Suhr sent this striking photo of her neighbor, Heather Garrett, mounted on Julie's beloved 31-year-old endurance horse, "Buddy"

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 \$ _____

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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 2011 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**

