



Quicksilver Quips

September 2012

September President's Message

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Newsletter Editor

Barbara McCrary
bigcreekranch@wildblue.net

QSER on the Web:

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

She sat in the corner of the drawer and stared at me angrily with her six, eight or however many eyes she has. At first, I felt like an intruder, for you see, I am quite sure she resented my presence and did not want to share the space with me. But what was I to do? The open drawer is where my laptop sits, and I use it often. In reality, it is SHE that has invaded MY space, and at first I was going to just catch her and throw her outside... but I have a soft spot for spiders, so I let her stay... just for a little while.

At first, she would run and hide in the corner every time I sat at my desk and worked on the computer. Eventually, she accepted my presence and started to come out and stare. I could feel her little bitty eyes on me, so when it bugged me enough, I would gently blow on her web and send her scampering off to hide. Her web, ugh... it's like a crocheted doily made by a blind person with the hiccups. It has no rhyme or reason, and there are several strands of cat hair mixed in it... quite disgraceful by spider standards, I suppose, but I kind of like it.

After a few weeks, we just accepted each other and she no longer runs off when I blow in her direction, but I no longer feel her staring at me with resentment. I think we made our peace, and she is here to stay. And then I decided to give her a name... Charlotte, of course! Problem is, once you get a name at my place, you become a member of the family. Then it dawned on me that Charlotte was not being very successful at catching dinner... no dead bugs in her messy web, and I felt sorry for her. I gave her a little bit of hamburger tonight and she pounced on it like an endurance rider on a cold drink after a long, hot 50. I'm watching her suck whatever juicy bits she can from the meat, and although she stepped away the first time I looked, she is now totally OK with being watched while she eats dinner. I guess I will have to start catching some flies now. Dang, another mouth to feed. Just what I needed.

We had a fantastic club ride on the 18th at Calero. So many people showed up, the rangers came to find out what was going on. I told them that we were just a group of friends who wanted to show off their beautiful park to trail riders (you always tell the rangers that their park is beautiful... just like Julie always tells dog owners that their mutt is beautiful!). At least 10 (possibly more) non-members, non-endurance riders came to "check us out". A few ex-members came to check us out too, and we all had a very good time. Jayne Perryman and Lori Oleson were our volunteer "vets" and our guests eagerly presented their horses for a pre-ride vet check. We explained what all the different categories on their ride card meant, and then sent them off on their first "endurance" ride.

President's Message (Continued on page 2)

President's Message (Continued from page 1)

We had enough experienced riders that every "guest" got to go on a ride that matched the speed and distance they felt comfortable with. A couple of hours later, when most riders were back, we enjoyed a yummy pot luck and got to visit for a while. One guest, Elizabeth Funderburk, joined the club right there on the spot, and many took materials home with them. Pretty much every single one of them came to me before they left to say thanks and to let me know they really enjoyed the day. Interesting part was that some guests brought guests with them, so we really had a lot more people we thought we would. It was really fun. I hope that if we do another one, those of you who could not make it to this one, will be able to come to the next one... maybe in October? It's a wonderful thing to sit back and see our club doing this kind of event.

We also had a super short meeting. Treasurer's report: we have money. Fall ride: coming along well. Brian is the ride manager. I sent all the permit paperwork to the park people, Trilby sent them the deposit, and I requested the insurance (which should be on its way soon). Hopefully many of you will ride it. Trilby volunteered to lead a "fun ride" so we'll have to figure out how to advertise that. We also told our guests that volunteering at a ride is a great way to learn, so maybe we'll get some helpers, but if we don't, we need YOU! We very much need someone to BBQ on Saturday, so please think about doing that. Bylaws: I'm about half way done on my 'side by side' compilation of old and new bylaws project to send out to the members for comments. Website: Jan Jeffers has volunteered to work on our website (thank you!!!), so please send her photos. Meeting was adjourned after about 10 minutes. Love those short meetings... Congratulations are in order to Q'silver members Barbara White, Lori McIntosh, Tracy Hoffstrand and Melissa Ribley for finishing the Tevis ride this year. Maybe there were others? I know of a few who started (Diane Trefethen, Sam and Peggy Davidson) who sadly did not finish, but fortunately not due to serious reasons. Saw lots of Q'silver members out there crewing and helping, too... we seem to be everywhere!

The World championships are over. The US team did well with a 4th place finish, and we cheer their accomplishment. Still really bummed about Becky and Pete not starting, but I'm glad they are OK.

Charlotte says good bye, although she is still quite happily munching on her supper. Good lesson to learn from her, I guess: when you are backed up against a corner, relax, not everyone is out to get you.

Happy trails,
Elisabet

Quicksilver Welcomes Three New Memberships!

Melissa Broquard
513 Hendon Court
Sunnyvale CA 94087-3361
mhbroquard@gmail.com

Janet Brown
15 Ocean View Road
Los Gatos CA 95033
353-3693
dana_bown@msn.com

Bruce and Leslie Dudley
17101 Debbie Road
Los Gatos CA 95033
779-8644
lbdudleys@sbcglobal.net



Leslie Dudley sent this bit of introduction to themselves:

We have two Off Track Thoroughbreds (OTTB) and a Quarter Horse. We are not at all picky about what horse breed we ride - just as long as it's a horse! We love to trail ride, take lessons and learn about horses. Leslie is an ICU RN and Bruce is an Area Manager for ATT; we live in the Santa Cruz mountains, we have 3 grown children, 1 grandchild and another on the way!

Check that cute chicken Leslie is holding!

See the introduction to Melissa Broquard on page 7



Quicksilver Club Fun ride and pot luck
Calero County Park
August 18, 2012



TEVIS!

Diane's Trefethen's Tevis Experience

First, Peekaboo & I were pulled at Robinson Flat which is only 36 miles into the ride. The good news is that the official pull code, "Surface factors", which in our case could have more aptly been called a "Tack attack", was a failure of a piece of equipment we were carrying. Ironically, I didn't even get to use it :(

Peekaboo is fine - no lameness or metabolic problems and so am I, although I am extremely disappointed. It's a lot of work and dedication and money to expend, not only on my part and Boo's but that of my crew too, and have it all come mostly to naught because of a small piece of rope. Grrrr....

OTHER than that, we all had a great time. My daughters Shari and Tricia and my grandson Thomas and my friends Gayle and Sandi all worked hard and had a good time, enjoying each others' company. Laughter and fun were the order of the day despite the tremendous let down when Boo developed an edema that precluded his continuing.

Peekaboo and I had the most amazing run up from the floor of Squaw Valley to the High Camp. Moving at a canter on a wide, hard-packed dirt road and rising almost 2000' feet in elevation over approximately 4 miles, we passed all the front runners. Subsequently, because I had been warned about the treacherous nature of the rocky trails through the Granite Chief Wilderness, we trotted where we could but mostly walked through that boulder strewn portion of the course. Many others did not, and passed us as we yielded trail. Since a large number of the later pulls were for lameness, one can only speculate on how many of those were the result of stone bruises acquired early in the race.

The completion rate was 48% of the entrants.

It is really good news that Boo will be fine in a few days and we'll be able to continue with light work until our next ride. The other wonderful event, at least I think it is wonderful, is how Thomas changed from extremely trepidatious about even being near Boo to feeding him carrots, leading him around and just plain enjoying the company of a horse :) They are truly magical creatures.

Thank you for your many good wishes. I truly appreciated your kind thoughts. I am sorry that we didn't do better but as Tricia said upon learning that we had been pulled and why, "Well, that's a good lesson for next year!" How can one not look forward with such warm and enthusiastic support! ■

Lori McIntosh and "Hot Wheels" Finish Their First Tevis in 40th Place!



Gore/Baylor photograph

Brook's Buffet



*Elisabet Hiatt crewed for Barbara White and "Canadian Brook"
Barbara earned her 32nd Tevis buckle!*

Heather and Jeremy's Tevis Experiences

Well Tevis started out fun... Jeremy and I rode out to the start with smiles on our faces, the weather was already T-shirt weather and it was really beautiful under the moon. At the starting line I had happy Birthday sung to me by all of the competitors around, that was super fun. The start was easy and our horses felt great. We were riding with our friends, Lisa and Garrett Ford. At mile 2 Cleo, Jeremy's mount, was leading and got spooked by some water/mud on the trail in the dark. She jumped up a very steep bank and then was about to flip over backwards when she did a pirouette and launched back towards the trail. When she landed she fell and rolled, Jeremy came off in the mud and then she scrambled and stepped on him a few times and then disappeared off the edge of the trail. There was a lot of noise and then it was silent. Very disturbing. We yelled for Cleo and there was silence. All the while the 200+ riders were at a halt on the single track waiting to see what would happen. Jeremy ran around, ahead on the trail and found a way down to where Cleo was. He had to push through the dense bushes. When he got down there we could hear Cleo moving and I yelled to see if Jeremy needed help. Cleo was stuck on her back in the brush on the hill side. Jeremy was able to grab her head and flip her over and then walk her out. After a brief inspection, in the dark, and a trot Jeremy got on and we were on our way again.

Just after the highway crossing Garrett, who was riding behind Jeremy, spotted the blood on Cleo's leg. We had to keep going on the single track so we wouldn't block everyone. When we got to the bottom of Squaw, Jeremy got off to have a good look and it was clear that Cleo, although sound, needed medical attention. His ride was over and he walked her down the mountain to get help. It turns out there was a radio guy right at the bottom and a vet with medical supplies and a trailer, very simple. Cleo got her knee stitched up and her heel flushed and went onto Antibiotics immediately.

I continued onwards. I rode most of the day with Garrett and Lisa Ford and Kevin Myers and Rusty Toth. We had all been training the entire summer together in Durango, CO and Jeremy and I had been coaching everyone so that we could all have a great Tevis performance. We had a super time riding together.

Granite Chief was simple; it has really been simple ever since we started using the Glue On Easyboots. I really feel like Spiderman now with those grippy boots on. Very secure.

Just before Cougar Rock I told Christoph that I really had wanted to go over it on Stirgess on my birthday ride but

Heather and Jeremy (Continued on page 7)

that after Jeremy's mishap I was going to skip it. As we approached it, I was in the lead of our group and I turned back to Christoph and told him how tempting it was looking; this is when he yelled in a cheerful voice, with a German accent, "JUST DO IT!!!". Without another thought I went up and over. I am so glad I did.

At Robinson Flat we all made it through. It was a nice rest and Stirgess ate well. This was a fun stop because I had some crew there that I hadn't seen in a while, my mom, dad, brother-in-law Tim, his girlfriend Jody, Skip, Karl, Megan, Laura and Doug and a few more. Very fun group.

The trail took the gravel road this year so we flew from Robinson to Dusty Corners. Rachael Shackelford and Brett and a friend of theirs was there to help put some ice water on Stirgess, that was fun to see them there.

I got off and ran down the first canyon. The swinging bridge was rocking at the bottom. I rode most of the way up into Devil's Thumb, although I did hike and tail some. Garrett on the other hand was working it! He was a climbing machine.

After many more miles we were at Michigan Bluff. We cooled the horses off and headed up again, into Chicken Hawk. My mom and dad were there. That was cool; they are not horse people but they crewed like they were.

Garrett, Lisa and I rode into Forrest Hill and took another nice break. Kevin and Rusty were right there a few minutes later. Super fun to have all of the training buddies more or less together this deep into the race.

I ate a burger and took a shower, super nice. At this check Jeremy's mom and Aunt Leslie were there as well as my other dad, in addition to everyone else - party!

When it was time to leave, Stirgess was out first but the plan was for Garrett, Lisa and I to ride together. I cruised through town and they soon caught up and we rode through town together waving at the cheering spectators.

The California loop was pleasant. After a few miles Kevin and Rusty came along and we were all having fun trotting down the trail. This part of the ride was getting increasingly humid. It was going to rain and it just got warmer and more humid the further we went.

At CAL 2 we all got water and then hit the trail again. At this point Kevin and Rusty backed off a hair. As we approached Francisco's we stopped at a creek to cool out our horses. When we went to leave again and started trotting, Stirgess felt off for about 4 steps. I was really worried and then he was fine.

We trotted into the check and all 3 horses looked great. After a few minutes we all headed to the vet and when I trotted Stirgess he was lame enough for me to stop and walk back to the vet! Very sad and sudden. Lisa and Garrett were both surprised and the vets were too, as they had just seen him trot in. At first it seemed like Stirgess had a muscle tightening in his shoulder so the vet said to go work on him. After stretching and massaging he was worse so I pulled him and started the 3 mile hike up the mountain to the trailer. This has become a frustrating part in the race for me as I have now made this hike 3 times while being in the top 3.

As I hiked up I tried to imagine the joy for the Fords and that helped a little. Stirgess was now lame walking. Part way up the hill a car pulled up and said that they would walk my horse and that I should get in the car. I thought it was someone that had been rafting or something so I politely declined, then Mike Shackelford told me it was he and to get in the car; how could I say no?? Super! He hiked for the rest of the hill even though we kept stopping the car and offering him a trade for a rest. Super guy, so generous.

Anyhow, Tevis was disappointing for us but amazingly great for all the rest of the Durango herd. Very awesome that they were 1st-4th with a Haggin Cup too. Garrett won and Rusty won Haggin. Way to go.

Our vet in CO came out to ultrasound Stirgess and see Cleo. Stirgess had ruptured a blood vessel in his leg and Cleo's stitches are holding well and there is no infection in her heel so he casted that and she will heal up.

I think we got rid of any bad luck so London should really be awesome! The horses fly out on Mon the 13th.

Introducing New Member Melissa Broquard

California native here; I grew up in Sunnyvale. I finished my BA in Psychology at UCSC in June 2012. I have no immediate desire to go off and get a masters degree, but it's not entirely out of the question at some point in the future. I moved to Santa Cruz for school and stuck around for, well, the horse, for one - the culture - the trees - you name it! In an amazing stroke of good fortune, I landed a job as an office manager in Sunnyvale for a chiropractic clinic, and I started almost immediately after graduation.

Finding a full-time job enabled me to stick around in Felton... and to support the lovely Haflinger mare I'd been leasing for two years. She was very kindly given to me as a graduation gift once I was able to afford her upkeep.

Between working full-time, riding 4+ days a week, and commuting over the hill and back, I haven't quite figured out the rest of my life. I like my job, I like where I'm living, and I love that I still get to ride **MY** horse. As a recent college graduate in this economy, there's really not much more I can ask for than that.

Between the two of us, the mare and I, we've dabbled in a little bit of everything! If all goes well, our LD debut will be at either Ride Bear or the QS Fall Classic, and I'll hopefully be volunteering for whichever one I don't ride. Looking forwards to meeting and riding with more endurance folks!

WELCOME, MELISSA!



READ INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 2 BEFORE FILLING IN FORM

**Quicksilver Fall Classic Endurance Ride
October 6, 2012**

ENTRY APPLICATION – check off your ride

This ride will be cancelled if it rains - please e-mail or call!

RIDER _____ AGE _____ AERC# _____
Feather WT (160 lbs and under) _____ Light WT (161-185 lbs.) _____ Mdl Wt.(186-210 lbs.) _____ Hvy wt.(211 lbs. and over) _____
ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

NAME OF HORSE _____ BREED _____ AERC# _____
AGE _____ HEIGHT _____ COLOR _____ SEX _____
OWNERS NAME AND ADDRESS _____

In appreciation of the acceptance of this entry application to enter and participate in the Quicksilver Fall Classic Endurance Ride, sponsored and administered solely by Brian Reeves and the Quicksilver Endurance Riders, the undersigned and my heirs, executors and administrators waive and release the Quicksilver Fall Classic Endurance Ride, and any person or individual connected in any way with the Quicksilver Fall Classic Endurance Ride, or their representatives, successors, and assigns from any and all rights, claims, or liability for damages for any or all injuries to me, or my animal, in the event of an accident caused by me or my animal, or any accident caused by anyone else connected with, or participating on, this trail ride.

Junior Riders (under 16 years as of 12-1-2012) entered in this ride will be accepted and allowed to ride only if accompanied by an adult rider. Juniors will not be allowed to start or continue on from any point without an adult sponsor.

An SEI approved helmet is required for riders under age 18. Bike and other helmets will not be allowed.

I have read the rules, conditions and regulations of this ride, and will abide by them.

SIGNATURE OF RIDER _____ DATE _____
SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN _____
DATE OF BIRTH IF MINOR _____ NAME OF SPONSOR _____

	(check which ride you are doing)	
Juniors	25 _____	\$60
	50 _____	\$60
Senior	25 _____	\$100.00
	50 _____	\$100.00
2012 Ride Managers	25 _____	\$50.00
	50 _____	\$50.00

Camping fee per night/vehicle\$15.00 _____ # nights _____ Total _____
Non AERC member fee.....\$15.00 _____
Late fee.....(after Sept. 21st).....\$25.00 _____
Extra Saturday Dinner tickets at \$10 each Number _____ Total _____

TOTAL _____

**Please make checks payable to Quicksilver Endurance Riders. Return entry and check to:
Brian Reeves 32883 Puma Ln, Squaw Valley, CA 96753
Checks will be deposited after the ride.**

Bring your current AERC Card to check-in.

Entries postmarked after 9/21/12 must pay a \$25 late fee.



Checks must be included with entry or you are not entered.
Full refund for cancellations by 9:00 PM by TUESDAY prior to the ride.
NO REFUNDS FOR NO SHOWS

Quicksilver Fall Classic Endurance Ride October 6, 2012

This ride will be canceled if it rains - please e-mail or call!

THE RIDE WILL BE AT THE JOSEPH D. GRANT PARK, a facility of the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department, IN SAN JOSE, CA. See last page for directions.

****Please park in designated campground. Do not park in the public parking area, even if you come in the morning of the ride.**

WHAT TO EXPECT:

A well marked trail.

A trail of moderate difficulty - good for a new horse or one in moderate condition.

A well organized, wonderful ride secretary who will see to it that your completion is duly and properly recorded.

FUN! Remember, this is only an offer, not a guarantee.

Vets: Dr. Melissa Ribley is our able head veterinarian.

Awards: If you complete, you will receive a stunning completion award. First place and best condition will be awarded. Other awards as donated.

Start time: 50 MILE RIDE - 7:00 AM. 25 MILE RIDE - 7:30 AM

CHECK IN: Friday, when vets arrive, usually around 3:30.

RULES: **You must present your 2012 AERC card at check-in or you will be assessed a \$15.00 non-member fee. No exceptions!

AERC rules and guidelines apply. AERC MEMBERSHIP forms will be available at the ride.

all dogs must be on a leash at all times.

Checks must accompany entry or you are not entered. We won't cash it until after the ride in case you need to cancel.

Entries postmarked after Sept 21 must pay a late fee.

Tuesday is the magic day. There will be NO refunds for cancellations after the **Tuesday** preceding the ride. A FULL refund will be given if you notify us by **9:00 PM Tuesday** preceding the ride.

No entries will be accepted the morning of the ride.

There will be NO refunds for no shows.

For further information call Brian Reeves, Ride Manager (559) 332-9229 or reevesranch@hotmail.com



Quicksilver Fall Classic Endurance Ride October 6, 2012

RAIN?? The County Parks Department requires that we cancel the ride if it rains. **It is your responsibility to see if the ride is on.**
Please e-mail or call us the Wednesday before the ride - we usually make a decision that morning if the weather has been questionable.

OTHER VITAL INFORMATION

Hello QSFC riders. Thank you for attending the QSFC ride. There will be a very brief ride meeting at 7:00 in the evening.

Start: We will start the 50 mile ride at 7:00 from camp. The 25 mile ride will start at 7:30 AM.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE A CREW, we will haul whatever you might need to the vet check. These items will be returned to the check-in office at camp. Please label you crew bags with your name and the ride distance.

If You Are Pulled: If you are pulled at Smith Creek Road the same truck and horse trailer that brought your stuff will be at the vet check to haul your horse back, or your crew can return to base camp and get your trailer.

Finish Line Procedure: Once you finish the ride, present your horse to the vet for your post ride check. After your horse passes, take your card back to the finish line timer and pick up your award.

Trail Markings: The trail is marked with flour dots on the right side of the trail and signs. Do not cross over solid lines, do not look over your shoulder at signs. More trail and vet details at ride meeting.

Please clean up your camp - All manure and hay must be bagged and taken home with you or put in designated area. We will provide bags and cleaning tools.

Late Entries: The late entry fee will be enforced. **If your check is not included with the entry, you are not entered.** We won't cash your check until the day after the ride, so, pick up an entry now, and send them in for next month. Thank you

Rain: If the weather has been questionable, or you are coming from out of the area and don't know what our weather has been like, **PLEASE CALL to make sure the ride is on. (559) 332-9229 We cancel if it rains! (yep, we're wusses!).**

Dinner: Saturday at 4:00 Hamburgers, Veggie Burgers and Hot Dogs. Rider meal included in entry -extra tickets \$10.00 each.

Have a good safe ride!



Quicksilver Fall Classic Endurance Ride
October 6, 2012

This ride will be canceled if it rains - please e-mail or call!

Directions to Base Camp

THE RIDE WILL BE AT THE JOSEPH D. GRANT PARK, a facility of the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department, IN SAN JOSE, CA.

From Hwy 101 or 680, take the Alum Rock exit and go east. Near the base of the foothills watch for Mt. Hamilton Road (we'll ribbon it) and go right. Go 8 miles to the entrance of the Joseph Grant Park. **DO NOT TAKE QUIMBY ROAD WITH A HORSE TRAILER!** The overnight parking fee is \$15.00 per night, payable with your entry. Grant Ranch Park is locked at 10:00 PM and opened at 5:30AM. Please call if you need to make special arrangements.

You must park in designated areas - no rigs in public parking lot. Check the sign as you pull into camp.

Directions To Smith Creek Vet Check

Turn right out of the main camp entrance, go approximately 5 miles (up the hill and down the other side). You will see Smith Creek Fire Station on the right. Just left of the station take the dirt road with ribbons on it into the vet check. Driving time about 15 minutes. Park in designated areas.

Horsemanship and Anatomy Clinic

Dr. Deb Bennett, PhD. Founder of [Equine Studies Institute](#)
Editor and Contributor to
EQUUS Magazine

Nov. 10 & 11, 2012

Limited number of riders!

Participants:

2 days \$250.00

1 day \$175.00

Register by Sept. 30 for 10% discount.

Spectators:

2 days \$ 40.00

1 day \$ 25.00

TMF Equestrian Center

560 Church Ave. (enter on Murphy Ave)
San Martin, CA 95046

Stabling

2 nights \$ 25.00

1 night \$15.00

Contact: Christine Amber
amber@equestriantraining.com
408.888.8703

Classifieds

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 **Becky Hart**, Level 3 Centered Riding instructor. Clinics available upon request.

408-425-5860

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

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

TAX SERVICES

Specializing in horses.

Trilby - (408) 997-7500

R.L. Watson Endurance Saddle for Sale

Featherlite Model: the most comfortable saddle you will ever ride. Hand made with lifetime warranty on tree (hardwood). Medium width, size 16 seat.

Adjustable western rigging; lots of D-rings and latigo ties. Made with flexible panels and converted to Specialized style panels for more flexibility in fit. You can use as is or convert back to flex panels. Exceptionally well made and in great condition.

See <http://www.shadowtree.com/>

[#ecwid:category=179208&mode=product&product=437714](http://www.shadowtree.com/#ecwid:category=179208&mode=product&product=437714) for complete description/pictures. Asking \$1000.

Contact **Debbie**, at dboscoe@pacbell.net

For Sale

Big bold trail horse, 6 year old 15.3 Arab bay gelding. Loads, bathes, clips—lots of personality, has lots of horse camping experience, ties to the trailer or on high tie.

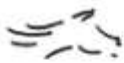
Contact Tracy Hofstrand—408 391-8912



WANTED

Endurance rider turned cowgirl looking for Big Horn brown Cordura Western saddle. Will purchase outright or will consider temporary trade for my Freeform Liberty treeless endurance saddle in like-new condition.

Beverley Kane sensei@horsensei.com 650-868-3379

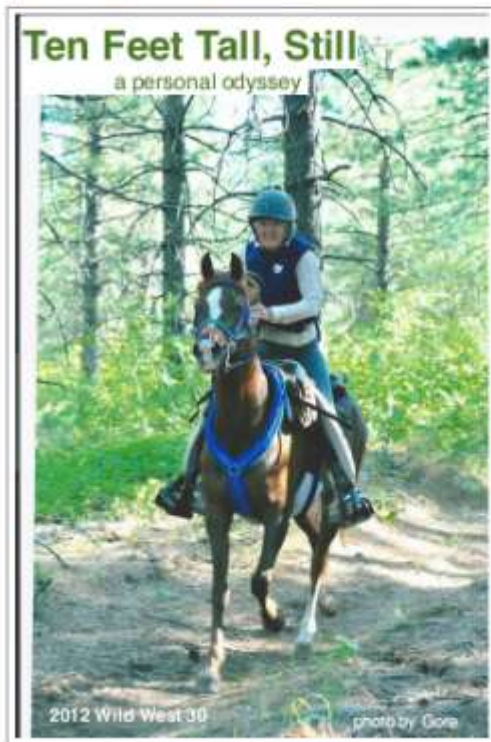


BOOKS ARE THE PERFECT GIFT!



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

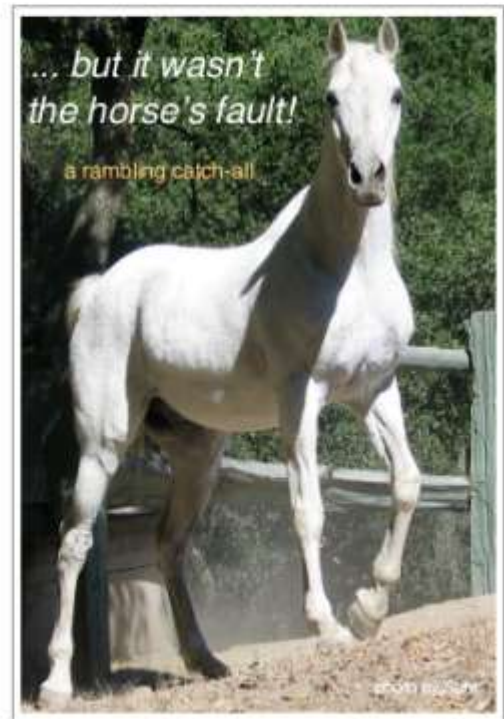
1. **Ten Feet Tall, Still** is out-of-print, but available as an e-book from Amazon, Barnes and Noble and others. All proceeds to **AERC Trails Fund** and **WSTF Trails Fund** for preservation of horse trails. \$9.99
2. **...but it wasn't the horse's fault!** Available from Marinera Publishing, www.marinerapublishing.com 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.

One of the earliest religious disappointments in a young girl's life revolves upon her unanswered prayer for a horse. Phillis Theroux, as quoted in Julie's book



FOR SALE



Schleese Trail Saddle \$4000
Excellent condition. Owned only 1 year and is no longer available as it is discontinued. Perfect for cross training your dressage horse. Comes with adjustable/removable knee rolls. Has custom cantos and additional D rings for showways, breast collar and crupper. Excellent for endurance all very comfy.

FOR SALE



Schleese Infinity Dressage Saddle \$3500
18" infinity saddle just bought in Oct. 2011. Hardly used. This saddle is \$4700 new. Please call with additional questions.

Offered by Lori McIntosh—please e-mail Lori@lorimcphoto for additional photos and questions

Classifieds

Georgia (Too Tart #5118636) 4 year old AQHA Buckskin Mare. Currently in training - pretty, will be good arena &/or trail horse. Reason for sale - owner changing discipline. Asking \$2,500.

Contact trainer Kathy Torres 408-935-9974 (in Milpitas) or owner **Andrea Pasek 408-710-6463**, andreapasek@yahoo.com. Email for photos.

14411 SHANNON ROAD, LOS GATOS

ALAIN PINEL REALTORS



The Ultimate Equestrian Estate

Located on 25.5+/- acres, this unique equestrian estate evokes the serenity of the countryside yet is just minutes from downtown Los Gatos. The sprawling, California ranch-style home with Georgian influence, features 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, with a separate den. Estate includes a separate one bedroom cottage for guests or a facilities manager. The 25,000+/-sf barn includes a 16,000+/-sf covered, mirrored riding arena. This estate would be suitable to many equestrian disciplines including dressage, grand prix, hunter/jumper, endurance training or arena polo. Excellent Los Gatos schools. Offering you the ultimate California equestrian lifestyle!

www.LosGatosEquestrian.com | Price Upon Request

SHERRY HITCHCOCK
Broker Associate
408-314-0878 | Hitchcock@apr.com
SherryHitchcock.com | DRE# 01409943



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apr.com | SARATOGA 12772 Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road

Dear QSER members – we had our place off of the market for a while, but we’ve done a bunch of work on the house to bring everything into tip-top shape and have a new agent marketing it for us. If you have any equestrian friends that might be looking for a nice horse property (complete with a covered arena that I know several of you are familiar with), please feel free to pass along this flyer to them.

In addition to the facilities, the property itself is very unique (which was one of the attractions for me when I first moved to the bay area). There is an entire small valley located behind the hillside that rises behind the house; that valley is very picturesque and private – you can’t see it from Shannon Rd, and the houses uphill beyond are almost completely screened off by oak trees. It’s amazing how peaceful it is, even so close to downtown Los Gatos. There are community trails that can be ridden directly from the property.

Terri Rashid

FOR SALE

Reliable 88 Ford cargo van 1 ton, 460 engine, turtle top, new brakes and tires, set up for camping and towing. Dual tanks, second battery for interior lights. Queen bed that converts to single bed. Lots of storage. \$2,700/offer.

Elisabet (831) 234-4732

"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 and Barnes and Noble and some other places. One Hundred percent of the proceeds go to the AERC Trails Fund and the WSTF Trails Fund.

This is shameless advertising, but I believe in the cause.

Julie Suhr

HORSES FOR LEASE

Two Beautiful Purebred Arabian Horses for CARE Lease

Can either go together, or individually

Due to urgent relocation circumstances, they cannot go with me until I am established.

No money exchange - only agreement to pay for care and maintenance of the horses

Contact for more information: (408) 930-9194



15hh Purebred 2001 (11 Year old) CMK Bred Arabian Gelding
Trained under-saddle, great on trails, a little rusty but ready to get back going
Ties, bathes, clips, trailers like a dream!
A confident and solid rider preferred
Would be great for the show circuit
Sound, healthy, and very sweet
He has a strong and very confident personality
He is the love of my life! :)



14.2hh 2008 (4 year old) Purebred Arabian Mare
Very very very sweet, eager to please, calm and kind
Ready for under-saddle training. Great for someone interested in gaining experience starting a very mentally sound horse

Due to life, I have not spent a great amount of time with getting her out and exposed to new and different experiences, but she is confident, solid and grounded. Does not spook easily

WANTED

I am looking for my next horse, and would greatly appreciate it if you would keep your eyes and ears open for possible horses for me. I am looking for the epitome of a Julie Suhr, later-in-life horse. I need a short, safe, smooth Arabian gelding no taller than 14.3. Ideally, I would like to clone my precious endurance horse Raj, but that is not going to happen. Please let me know if anything comes across your radars and I would be grateful. Thanks for the assistance and happy trails. **Margaret Graham**

Jerry Dowdy in Scotts Valley has 14 saddles from McClellans to Western, Australian and English plus a lot of harnesses, bridles, and miscellaneous horse gear for sale in Scotts Valley. If you are interested he will send you a CD with pictures of them and also include a list of tree and seat sizes. All very reasonably priced. His number is

831-335-5587

Classifieds

For Rent 2000+ SF Home in Gilroy (off New Avenue)

- * Private, gated country estate
- * Home is attached to custom horse barn
- * 3 Bedrooms, 2 full baths
- * Owner lives in separate home on property; willing to sign 12 month lease
- * One small pet acceptable with additional security/cleaning deposit
- * \$1800 per month plus \$1800 security deposit
- * PG&E (gas and electric), phone, trash pick-up at tenant's expense
- * Interested parties must complete application and provide references

Please leave name/phone number at **408-847-2043**
Ann B. Curtis 408-691-2043

Dear God,

So far today, I have done all right. I have kept my mouth shut. I have not gossiped, yelled, or lost my temper. I have not been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or over indulgent. I am glad about that. But in a few minutes, God, I am getting out of bed. From then on, I 'm probably going to need a lot of help.

Thank you.

Choices

Most of us in the Quicksilver Club have had to wrestle with decisions that are emotionally difficult. The time comes when you have to question whether the life of a much loved pet is going to continue. It may be a cat, a dog or a horse, some of whom have been devoted companions of many years. Maryben and I discussed this once and what she said made an impression on me. "When you are keeping them alive for you and not in their best interests, the time has come."

To give the nod to a veterinarian to proceed is probably the hardest things we ever do. Sometimes the choice is not left to us because death is imminent without veterinarian intervention. If an animal is severely disabled by an accident or debilitated by an irreversible disease, the question is also more easily answered. There is no choice.

It is when there is a choice of further medical intervention and a restricted life, frequently accompanied by pain, that we waiver with indecision. I know personally I have acted too hastily in some cases and waited too long in others. It just seems sometimes there is no "right time." I think I feel quality of life is more important than quantity and acting a bit prematurely is better than prolonging a life that in the wild, nature would never have permitted to continue.

When we love an animal we open ourselves to the possibility of deep regret if we make a wrong choice. It is the risk we take by "owning" an animal. A recent Sunday supplement went into the subject at some length and it precipitated this article from me. The conclusion was that "In the end we do whatever will haunt us least."

Julie Suhr

My Memorable Adventure

Lud and I were contacted on July 27th by Peter Newfield, one of the organizers of the California Mission Ride (see their website for frequent updates), asking for help on a route over the Santa Cruz Mountains from the Santa Clara Valley to the coast. The originator of this adventure is Gwyneth Horder-Payton, a film director, who wanted to record the series of California Missions for an educational documentary. After they would reach the coast, they would ride to Santa Cruz to the next mission. I'm not sure where they got our names, but they picked the right people, as we have known horseback routes from Waterman Gap, the entrance to Big Basin State Park at the junction of Hwy. 9 and Hwy. 236, since the old days of Castle Rock Challenge Ride in 1969. We also used this route from the coast to Waterman Gap for the Swanton Pacific 100. I volunteered to lead them on this ride. We would start on August 30th, ride about 25 miles, and arrive in Swanton that evening to camp over at Quicksilver member Jeanine McCrary's place for two nights.

Our granddaughter, Katie Webb, wanted to go along. On the appointed morning, Katie and I saddled up, and we loaded my Morgan mare, Spirit, and Katie's mount, our Arab gelding, Jess, and Lud drove us up to Waterman Gap, about 1½ hours' drive from our home. We were a bit early, but soon the Mission Riders arrived. We talked a bit, passed introductions around, and got underway at 10:00.

One of the wranglers in the group was Rod Rondeaux, a Crow/Cheyenne Indian, who is employed in the film industry as a stunt man and actor. The other wrangler was from Massachusetts and was skilled in the more conventional horse skills of the east coast—jumping, et al. Gwyneth rode, as did her daughter, who had previously broken her foot and was riding in a walking cast, contrary to her doctor's orders. The horses were an assortment, including a beautiful buckskin Quarter Horse stallion (Rod's horse), an Arab/Mustang cross, and a Haflinger/something cross pony. I made it a requirement that Spirit and I lead, mainly because Spirit believes it's her God-given right, and because she has a very fast walk. However, she met her match in walking speed in the QH stallion. Nevertheless, I managed to keep the group pretty much to the game plan.

We rode the length of the infamous "Knee Knocker", so named by the Castle Rock riders of years ago, because this trail is about two feet wide in places and passes between large redwood trees. Parts of it are also cut into a nearly vertical mountainside, the very format that can cause me panic attacks. I have always been afraid of looking down into deep canyons and off cliffs. I was in a position to test my courage sorely.

I have had Spirit since March but have not ridden her a great deal. However, I felt I had a sense of her well enough to trust her on this kind of precipitous trail. Many people simply cannot comprehend why I have this fear, because they don't share it (Lud is one of them.) But for those people who have the same fear, I'm sure they understand. We hadn't been on the trail more than a few hundred feet when it became the trail of my worst nightmares. I just told myself I could do this, and in the long run—I did. The Knee Knocker is about five miles of narrow trail, beautiful forest, twists and turns, ups and downs, and highway crossings—all on one side or the other of Hwy. 236. The traffic was heavier than I had expected for a Thursday morning.

Finally we emerged onto Upper China Grade and rode another few miles on this remote road. We met a few vehicles going to, or coming from, Cutter Boy Scout Camp, which was located at the terminus of China Grade. I hadn't expected traffic there, either, but everyone was polite and considerate of our horses. When we arrived at the junction of Johansen Road, we turned toward the ocean. A few miles further and we stopped for lunch. It was 1:00 PM. After a short rest, we proceeded down the Upper Middle Ridge fire road, through chaparral and huge redwoods, and emerged onto Gazos Road, just a short distance from Big Basin headquarters. Then we turned onto Lower Middle Ridge, soon came to Hihn-Hammond Road, and entered the headwaters of East Fork Waddell Creek. We followed a single-track trail through the ferns, crossed the creek, and were now riding the Last Chance trail toward the residential community of the same name. The people who live here obviously sought reclusiveness, as it is a long way from your basic concept of civilization. Well...they do have telephone service, but not much else. Many of these were the 1960s "hippies" who first settled here, in part to engage in "agriculture" of their choosing.

We proceeded to the coast and Spirit could smell the ocean. She knew she was nearer home and kicked up her enthusiasm a notch or two. Lud met us partway out Last Chance Road with water. Spirit has never drunk on any ride I have taken her, and she refused water here, too. The trail led us to a crossing of Scots Creek, where the now-thirsty Spirit drank about five gallons of water. We approached the old Seaside School on Swanton Road, where we encountered my daughter, Susan, just coming home from work. She greeted us and closed the gate for us as we crossed the road and ducked into a little trail that took us to another crossing of Scots Creek. We rode down a lovely wooded trail as I pointed out some monster redwood trees to the others. It was only two more miles to their evening camp. We arrived at 6:00 PM, just about as I had estimated. We had walked or jogged the entire distance, never a trot or canter, primarily because I was badly out of condition from not riding endurance for about five years.

I was enormously pleased with Spirit's performance all day, and ecstatic that I had conquered my fear of riding "drop-off" trails. For a person with a life-time phobia, you can't imagine what that meant to me. My trust in Spirit had not been misplaced.

We joined the group for a grilled steak dinner, visited a while, and I went home to a soak in the hot tub, take two Advil, and get a good night's sleep. It had been a memorable adventure...

Barbara McCrary

You Don't Have to Look Like Me to Be My Friend



Submitted by Steve Lenheim



"Awww...big hug."

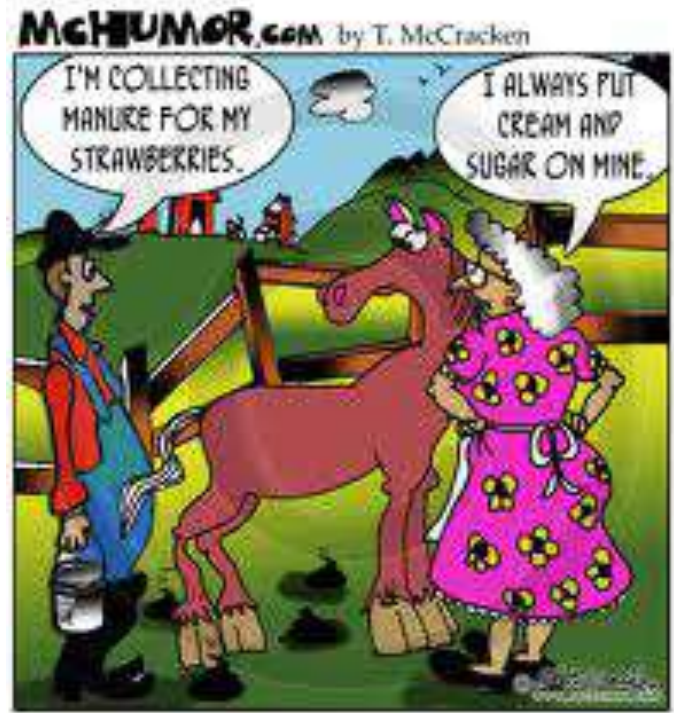
Submitted by Jo Barrett



The Endurance Horse of 2050

Submitted by Mike Maul

Humor and Birthdays



Happy September Birthday
to our Quicksilver Members and
Endurance Friends



September 23rd
Melissa & Robert
Married 23 years!

Our horses know our secrets;
we braid our tears into their manes
and whisper our hopes
into their ears. ~

Author Unknown



Jackie Bumgardner	2
Becky Hackworth	3
Libby Bass	3
Dave Nicholson	4
Tracy Hofstrand	5
Kathy Mayeda	8
Karen Chaton	10
Miriam Plaggmier*	11
Sandie Parker-Jones	11
Pete LeMond	17
Rick Rashid	19
Cathy Kauer	20
Pam Villa	22
Pat Bush*	26
Jackie Davidson	26

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

FIRST: We need your name

And then your address

And your phone number, Fax, e-mail

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

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

Total enclosed \$ _____

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

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

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

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

May your and your horse(s) have a wonderful year riding together as Quicksilver Endurance Riders!!!

Treasurer's Report

General Account: \$5,182.82

Trails Account: \$1,073.77

Junior Account: \$454.33

From Trilby Pederson

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**

