



Quicksilver Quips

December 2014

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Officers

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

Board Members

Elisabet Hiatt
Jeanine McCrary
Barb Granter

Newsletter Editor

Barbara McCrary
bigcreekranch@wildblue.net

Quicksilver on the Web

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

President's Message – December 2014

The year is coming to an end and this will be my last President's message to you. Beginning in January, the new board will be taking over. As of this issue of the Quips, we do not know who that will be. Ballots were mailed to the membership by the nomination committee the middle of November. If you have not received yours, and are a member in good standing for the 2014 year, please contact committee chair, Kathy Brayton (kbrayton@aol.com) and let her know. There are 8 people nominated for 7 positions on the board. There is a great mix of newer members and those that have been with the club since the beginning.

At the end of the Quips is a membership application. Please don't forget to renew your membership for the 2015 year. Maybe you would like to give someone a membership as a Christmas present. Wouldn't it be a nice surprise for friends or family?

Our Christmas Party is Friday, December 12th at 6:00pm at Almaden Community Center on Bertram Road. Trilby will be putting together a wonderful spread. For the pot luck, those with last names beginning with A-H bring a dessert and those beginning with I-Z bring a side dish. Trilby will provide one turkey and she is looking for someone to bring a ham. Give her a call (408-997-7500). Also, bring a gift to share and participate in the fun of stealing those gifts from each other.

Mary Anderson is organizing our Awards Banquet which will be held at Harry's Hofbrau on Saturday, February 7th at 6:00pm. Save the date for an evening of catching up with friends and celebrating our horses.

Pictures for the calendar/yearbook need to be sent to Judith Ogus (judith@randomarts.biz). Your year end points and mileage needs to be sent to Jayne Perryman (jayneperryman@yahoo.com) by January 15, 2014. Within the Quips you will find a form to complete or you can download it from our website (<http://qser.net/2014YEPPoints.docx>).

Don't forget to nominate that horse or rider that is worthy of one of Quicksilver's most prestigious awards (HOF Person, HOF Horse, Horse of the Year, Eleanor Norton Award). Our Committee Chairs are last year's winners:

- * HOF Person – Dick Carter (408-234-2240) or contact his committee member Sandy Holder by e-mail (siholder002@gmail.com)
- * HOF Horse – Murr The Blurr – Melissa Ribley (mmribley@gmail.com)
- * Horse of the Year – Magnum's Red Baron – Cathy Lefeber

President's Message (Continued on page 2)

President's Message (Continued from page 1)

(clefeber@sbcglobal.net)

* Eleanor Norton Award – Scott Sansom (sansom@sbcglobal.net)

I hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas season and may you and your horse have a Happy 2015.

Lori

QUICKSILVER TREASURER REPORT

(By Maryben Stover)

November, 2014

Balance 10/31/14			\$2,836.55
Expenses:			
	Bank Charges	6.00	
	Lori Oleson – ride	43.50	
	Jayne Perryman – ride	448.29	
	Peggy Davidson – ride	2,813.17	
	Barbara McCrary – Quips	60.72	
	Golden State – Porta Potties	271.28	
	Kathy Brayton – election expense	22.67	
	Barbara White – election expense	23.52	(\$3,689.15)
Income:	Dues	255.00	
	Ride Receipts	8,909.00	\$9,164.00
Balance 11/30/14			\$8,311.40
Trails Account			\$1,074.13
Junior Account			\$454.38

QSER holiday gift exchange
and potluck
Dec 12 -6:00PM.
Trilby usually needs help
decorating and setting up
at the old Almaden
Community Center .

**Quicksilver Christmas
Party**

Friday, December 12th, 2014

Almaden Community Center
21727 Bertram Road, San Jose

6:00pm - 9:00pm



Riding in the Rain

By Elisabet Hiatt

I've been riding Endurance for almost 30 years, and I've been rained on only once... it was a Desert Gold ride exactly 10 years ago. It threatened to rain all morning and eventually, for about an hour, we got a good shower while out on the trail. Other than that, I've been rained on at one of many camping trips at Point Reyes, but only during the night... and there was that one interesting camping trip to Henry Coe about 30 years ago where it hailed on us for about 10 minutes, so, I can definitely say that the "rain gods" have smiled upon me... until now, that is.. The odds finally caught up with me big time!

I just got back from the Gold Shuffle ride near Wheatland, and boy oh boy... did we (my horse more than I) get wet! I arrived on Friday planning on riding two days. It was lovely weather and for a few hours I deluded myself thinking that the weather man was wrong. Hah... as soon as the sun went down, the skies opened up and the heavy rain poured on and off all night.

When morning arrived, everything was soaked, including my horse. I had dutifully put up a tarp between my trailer and some trees, providing him with a nice dry "stall". He liked it at home, but I didn't count on the sound the rain made on top of it. He definitely did not like it and spent the entire night as far away from it as he could get. His blanket kept him warm and dry, but I felt pretty silly having gone through all that trouble.

We had heavy clouds all around us, but no rain. The well marked trails were beautiful, fairly flat and very, VERY slippery. There were some areas with great footing where we could make up some time, and others that were treacherous even at a walk. Tango did the splits a couple of times, but didn't seem to mind. We had a thirty-some-mile first loop with a quick P&R/trot and no hold due to the cold temperature and drizzle. On our way back to camp (and lunch) it rained pretty hard for about 1/2 hour, but not too cold. I was very glad to have a good rain jacket, though.

Riding by the firing range was exciting (who would have thought people go to an outdoor firing range at 7AM on a rainy wintery day?) but Tango was on a mission, and other than a little jerk every time someone shot, he did not slow his pace. I love the smell of gun powder in the morning... but I digress.

We had only a 1/2 hour lunch break, again, because of the rain and cold. I stayed longer, because Tango had not eaten much all night due to the evil tarp, and I wanted him to fuel up. The second loop around the lake shore was mercifully short (about 10 miles) and mostly flat. The few hilly parts with single track trails were the worst for slipping and sliding, but the lakeside trail was much nicer than it was last year. I don't know if it was because the level of the water was different, but last year we had to do several miles with sharp shard-like rocks sticking out of the ground that poked the horses legs pretty badly. I think this is where Tango got his nasty case of scratches. If it was something else, I hope that a heavy slathering of Desitin applied before the ride and keeping my fingers crossed will prevent him from getting them again this year!

We came in 15th place and Tango passed his vet check with flying colors. After doing the 60 Años ride (10+ thousand feet of elevation changes!) two weeks ago, this ride seemed really easy terrain-wise!

We had a lovely roaring fire at camp each night, and lots of people came and sat by it and talked. I made a few new friends and met up with a few old ones. It was quite pleasant.

I saw only Jeff Lutenuer from QS there. I think he rode day 1 and day 3. He said day one (55 miler) was really tough.

After hearing the weather forecast, I decided to withdraw from the Sunday ride. The ride manager said they were going to cut out some of the most slippery trail sections, so I have the feeling it was a pretty easy ride, but I'm glad I didn't stay. Last night it rained again - so hard - I could hardly sleep with the noise. One advantage was that I didn't have to refill my water buckets! Ha!

This morning I watched the riders leave, packed up camp, and hit the road. Before I left, I took a photo of the sunrise. I'm more of a sunset gal, but have to admit, it was pretty. About an hour into my trip home, the heavens opened up and I was very glad to be inside my cozy vehicle rather than out there on the trail. Guess I'm a wuss, and I really hope I have paid my "rainy day ride" dues for at least another 10 years!



Elisabet and Tango

Sesenta Uno Años Ride

By Judith Ogus

Debbie Boscoe and I drove together to the Sesenta Uno Años Ride with the hopes of riding all three days. My mare, Mia, is in the War Mare standings and though she will not be able to be #1 in the category, I was hoping to at least keep her in the top ten. Several people had warned me that the ride was very difficult with multiple steep ascents. Having completed both Tevis with its infamous canyons and Virginia City with the equally infamous SOB's, I figured Mia and I were well prepared for anything. The first day of the ride was spectacular - a long gradual climb took us above the fog level and we could look back and see riders behind us winding their way up the hill.

The ride takes place on the 37,000 acre Rancho San Fernando Rey north of Santa Barbara and is one of the original Spanish land grants in the upper Santa Ynez River Valley. With cactus and century plants emerging from steep slopes, rocky creek crossings, long flat channels running between the rolling oak studded hills, it looks much like it did 200 years ago. The only hints of modern adaptation are solar panels erected to drive the pumps by every water tank.

I loved the ride. There were technical spots, long flat stretches great for cantering, steep climbs up and down and many gradual slopes ideal for trotting. The views were spectacular. I highly recommend the ride to anyone who has not yet done it.

Though Mia and Cathy LeFeber's horse, Baron, snarl at each other when we condition together, the two get along famously at rides and we paired up for all 3 days. Baron and Mia were superstars - eager and tough and pulling each other along out in front the first two days. They both recovered quickly at the vet checks and only faltered in enthusiasm on the second day after lunch when there was a long period with no water. We got off and let them nibble whatever minimal grass we could find, then dumped all our own water in our scoops so they could drink. Mia slurped up every drop.

All four of us were elated when we arrived at the first water trough, where Lynne Glazer happened to be photographing the riders. From there on in, the ride zigzagged back and forth to accumulate mileage. As so often happens on rides that zigzag, our horses manifested their disapproval by slowing down on the zags away from camp and speeding up on the zigs heading home. However, they were generally good natured, and every day, when we reached the stretch of road that lead back to camp, they both wanted to race. Cathy, my dear, dear friend, let Mia come in ahead of Baron everyday so Mia could get more points for War Mare. I hate to imagine what the two very fit horses would have done if we had allowed them to race. On the first two days Mia came in first and Baron second and I am proud to say that Mia also got BC on those days. On the third day, I started out a bit ahead of Cathy because Mia was eager to go. I was riding with a friend and chatting way too much because we missed a turn and ended up losing about 15 minutes. By then Cathy and Baron had passed us, but our companionship seemed fated. We eventually caught up and happily rode together for the rest of the day.

On the first loop there were some narrow and harrowing trails that skirted the edges of washouts. Though one of Baron's hind feet slipped off the trail on one of these, we made it through safely. Then we decided to take it easy because the horses had worked so hard on the first 2 days. We got off on most of the descents and slowed down our pace. I believe we came in 7th and 8th that day (not sure because there was a mix-up with one of the front runners who went off trail) and Mia received awards for overall fastest time and overall Best Condition for the 3 days.

Mia and I owe so much to Cathy and Baron for their support and great companionship. Debbie Boscoe also finished all three days, and Lori Oleson rode and completed days one and two on Rosie.



End of third day - Mia on left and Baron, on right, fell asleep with his head in his hay feeder



First Day - sunrise

Quicksilver Fall Classic 2015 Update

This is really early to be bringing up the ride for next year, but I wanted to keep everyone updated on what is going on. Our ride manager of the past 2 year, Peggy Davidson, has decided to step down for the upcoming year. She has done a great job and has laid the ground work for the next ride manager to step in and continue her good work. Thank you Peggy for all your time and dedication to the club.

Another change is our date. It has been sanctioned for October 3, 2015. It will be at the same park (Harvey Bear County Park). Lake Sonoma changed their date to October 17th so we needed to have at least two weeks in between the two rides in order for both to have a chance to be successful.

The process of completing the Special Events Permit is in the works, so our date is reserved with County Parks. Many of you may not know, but Quicksilver member Carolyn Tucker is interim Park Use Coordinator with Santa Clara County Parks. I hope her position becomes permanent. This is very well suited to her educational background, and having someone who understands our needs in this position is very helpful.

Trails Update

At our June meeting at Bear Ranch, Pat McAndrews agreed to be our club representative with Santa Clara County Parks as our Trails Committee Chair. In mid-November, Pat met with Elish Ryan, Acting Senior Planner with County Parks regarding trails at Calero. According to Pat the meeting went well and they are very aware of our desires.

There were specific trails at Calero we were concerned about, such as Chisnantuck Peak Trail. This is the beautiful single track trail from the Cottle water trough to the top of the hill. The new trail they have planned is very close to the original trail.

Their goal is to make all trails maintainable and safe for all users. No trails are going to be demolished until new ones are built. They are willing to discuss the issue of what we want at that time.

There will be new trails added with the possibility of 18 different loops. Not all are open to bikes, and there are some exclusive to horses. There is also the possibility of adding a trail around the reservoir if funding comes.

The guy in charge of trail construction is Ranger Paula's husband and Pat said he is a cool guy who wants us happy.

Elish also said that Rancho San Vicente will be ready in 2016, pending okay from County Roads for the appropriate and safe access to the staging area.

Katie Webb Has a New Horse!

Quicksilver member Katie Webb has a new horse of her very own! She has been riding endurance seriously for several years, having started at age 11 on her mare *Jialeah, by riding Swanton Pacific 75 with her mother. For the past three or four years, she has ridden her grandmother's gelding, Jassen's Legacy, very successfully. She has finished every ride she entered except Virginia City 100, when rain and darkness left her without enough time to reach the finish line.

For several months recently, she has searched up and down the west coast for just the right mount and finally found one she really liked—Stevie, a 6-year old Gulastra's Knight daughter, whose registered name is CSF MS Quick Step, Katie purchased her from fellow Quicksilver member Judith Ogus.

Look for them on the trail before long.

Now if that isn't a pair of beautiful girls!

News Notes

Julie Suhr reports that the Tevis Cup Swinging Bridge has been rebuilt after being destroyed in the fires.



Book Review

I am currently reading **Half Broke Horses** by Jeanette Walls. It was published in 2009 and I think I may have browsed it quickly then. Yesterday with a rainy day ahead, I downloaded it on to my Kindle and am reading it again on my computer.

The title would make you think it was a horse story, and a bit of it is, but the author is really telling the story of her grandmother who grew up in a west none of us have ever experienced. I find it fascinating and cannot recommend it highly enough. As I read a chapter I think "I will just finish this chapter" and then I'll go accomplish some things that I have been putting off, but no... I start the next chapter within seconds of finishing last word on the previous chapter.

Julie Suhr

Book Review

I manage to read a chapter in the evening before going to sleep. The book is **Unbroken** by Laura Hillenbrand, who also wrote *Seabiscuit*, from which a movie was made. This is the closest to the subject of horses that it comes.

The story recounts the life of Louis Zamperini, an incorrigible childhood delinquent who broke into houses, became involved in brawls, and fled from his home to ride the rails. As a teenager, he channeled his defiance into running and discovered a prodigious talent that carried him to the Berlin Olympics in 1936 and within sight of the four-minute mile.

During World War II, he became an airman. During one of his missions, his craft crashed into the Pacific Ocean, and he barely made it out of the sinking plane, onto a floundering raft, and a long struggle to stay alive. He encountered sharks, thirst, hunger, and finally—capture by the Japanese.

He spent a long period of time in a prison camp under a particularly cruel captor.

How he survived torture to come home alive and eventually to forgive his captors, is a fascinating story. Zamperini died this past July at the age of 97. Angelina Jolie has directed the forthcoming movie, due out on Christmas Day.

Barbara McCrary

Peter Harper Rides Sesenta Uno Años Ride

I rode all three days. Day 1 and 3 on Ladyhawk; Day 2 on Rocket. I just checked my results and see they have Ladyhawk listed for all three days.

I will send John a note.

A reminder that all the ballots for the new Board must be postmarked by Dec. 10. I have received about half of the 90+ we mailed out. It's a pretty close race so we need everyone to vote!!

Kathy Brayton

Quicksilver Endurance Riders Awards

Banquet

February 7th, 2015

Harry's Hoffbrau

**390 Saratoga Ave., San Jose - Dinner will be at
6:00 with the awards starting around 6:45.**



Classifieds

ANNOUNCING

LOARC

Lichen Oaks Adaptive Riding Center

Stacy James-Ryan

Program Director

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

Jean Kvamme

Executive Director

info@loarc.net

www.loarc.net
(in construction)

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

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



FOR SALE

14" Ortho-Flex Traditional with Snake Skin Inlay. Has a yoke for English-type girthing. \$650. \$750 with extra stirrup leathers and stirrups.

This is a used saddle that I bought for my young horse but she is too much of a butterball for it. It will fit a small adult or kid.

Call or email Judith for more information:

(408) 425-7873 judith@randomarts.biz

FOR SALE

WWW 2-horse bumper pull with ramp and full size tack compartment (You can even slide a queen size mattress in under the pullout saddle racks to sleep on.). This was done in a pouring rainstorm at a ride once years ago.

The tires and running gear are sound and the paint, wiring and lights are serviceable. Repairs are needed to the bottom of the rear doors, ramp and floor. The ramp could be removed entirely eliminating any work on it.

Reduced to \$700.

Please contact:

[Diane Enderle](mailto:Diane.Enderle@blacksmithshop.com) at (408) 903-3773 or [Jerry Dowdy](mailto:Jerry.Dowdy@blacksmithshop.com) at [The Blacksmith Shop](http://TheBlacksmithShop.com) (831) 335-5587

Classifieds

QUICKSILVER CLUB CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

Can't decide what to give that special
person on your Christmas list?

...but it wasn't the
horse's fault!

Judith Ogus' cartoons will bring a smile and a chuckle every time you pick this book up as they illustrate what Julie could not find the right words to further the ups and downs, the highs and lows of our sport.



**\$22.95 if picked up at the Quicksilver Christmas Party on December 12th.
No shipping/handling charges. YAY!**

For benefit of Center for Equine Health at the University of California Veterinarian School for research on exercise related cardio-pulmonary and metabolic disorders of the long distance horse.

Logan Coach Wrangler II Utility Stock Trailer

Specs: 1999 steel, 2 horse step up slant with walk in tack area, bumper pull, 14' X 6' 6", white with spare tire. Used lightly, original owner, great condition. \$4000

Cally Davis (831) 338-0671 or 331-7201

WANTED

Board wanted in Scotts Valley or Felton area for two horses. They can be in the same enclosure of an acre+. Need a shelter.

Call **Maggie** at **831-254-7402**

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**

Services

CENTERED RIDING® LESSONS

Help your horse use him/herself effectively while going down the trail.
Take the stress out of your body and your horse's body.
Find out how to have a better seat and make your horse more comfortable.
Centered Riding® lessons available with
Level 3 Centered Riding instructor. Clinics available upon request.

Becky Hart
(408) 425-5860

TAX SERVICES
Specializing in horses.
Trilby— (408) 997-7500



HORSE BOARDING PERFECT FOR ENDURANCE HORSES—ALMADEN AREA

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

**Becky: 408-425-5860 or Maryben:
408-265-0839.**
email to merryben@live.com



Quicksilver 2014 Calendar



December 12 — Christmas Party at Almaden Community Center 6:00 PM
February 7, 2015—Quicksilver Awards Banquet at Harry's Hofbrau 6:00 PM

Services



HORSE BOARDING FACILITY

20535 Rome Drive, San Jose, California.

Stalls: \$320.00, pasture \$220.00,
fed twice a day high-quality
orchard-alfalfa mix hay.

96' X 48' uncovered outdoor arena. We clean. Shavings available.
1.25 miles to entrance to the Quicksilver County Park (3600 acres
and 19.2 miles of manicured trails). I provide my trailer for use to
boarders.

My place borders Quicksilver Park.

Trilby – (408) 997-7500

Humor and Birthdays

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?



*Merry Christmas
to All !*



Happy December Birthdays to our Quicksilver Members and Endurance Friends

Ruth Waltenspiel	1
Dick Carter	6
Elaine Elbizri	6
Lisa Schneider	11
Julie Caprino Best	19
Bob Suhr*	20
Larrissa Voight	21
Heather Bryant	22

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

FIRST: We need your name

And then your address

And your phone number, Fax, e-mail

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

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

Family membership is \$ 40 _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dave Rabe

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

Thomas Jefferson

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

Mission Statement of Quicksilver Endurance Riders, Inc.

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

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

