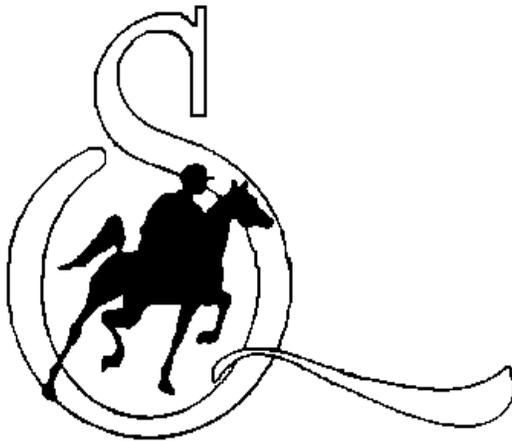


# QUICKSILVER QUIPS

July 2003



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## PRESIDENT'S Message

The June meeting at Bob and Julie Suhr's was very well attended. The weather was great and we had lots of good food. Our speaker for the evening was Bob Enea, President of the Monterey Horse Park (soon to be developed). MHP is going to become a show place for all types of equestrian events; from western/English riding to steeplechase and from a veterinary clinic to a farrier school. Bob is hoping endurance will be included in the development since there are many miles trails adjacent to the facilities.

Instead of going to a ride in the month of June, I took my four-year-old mare, Rosie, camping at Coe Park. What a good experience this is for a young horse. She learned so much from her seasoned camping buddies. Going to rides is fun, but this was a reminder to me that there are so many other ways to enjoy our horses.

Our meeting in July will be a ride and BBQ/potluck at Calero County Park. Come anytime you would like to ride; we will eat around 7:00 PM. A-L bring salad/fruit/bread, M-Z bring a dessert, or just what ever you would like. The Club will provide meat and drinks.

**Treasurer's Report**

General Account Activity

**Beginning balance 4-17-03 \$4,228.57**

Less: checks issued (ride expenses & newsletter) (3,759.18)

Add: deposits (ride entries) 6,867.00

**Ending balance 6-30-03 \$7,336.39**

Trails account \$ 902.94

Junior account \$ 771.28

Income statement for 2003 Spring Ride

Income: Ride entries \$6,867.00

Less: Expenses

Park permit 25.00

Veterinarian fees 1,400.00

State drug test fees 201.00

AERC rider fees 328.00

Food 756.37

Awards 589.63

Supplies 222.06

Gift certificates 50.00

**Total Expenses (3,572.06)**

**Net Income \$3,294.94**

**Marvin's Corner**

*or the best laid plans...*

Marvin had to pull out of this year's WS 100 because he unexpectedly had to have surgery for bilateral abdominal hernias on June 20. He is recovering quickly and plans to attend the WS Run with Joyce to cheer on the runners who will definitely need some encouragement since it looks like the weather will be

roasty-toasty. His participation in the Badwater is on hold.

**IN MEMORIUM**

On June 28 Ernie Elliot, Nancy Elliot's husband was killed in a car crash. Nancy was in the car and was not injured. Her family is with her and she is doing well, all things considered. Nancy's address is:

Nancy Elliot  
4290 Pescadero Road  
Pescadero, CA 94060  
415 879-0154  
[hossdoc@southcoast.net](mailto:hossdoc@southcoast.net)

On July 1 Kay Allison died after battling cancer for several years. Kay was a founding member of the Quicksilver Riders and will be greatly missed. Kay and her husband, Connell, supported the club in many ways over the years. Connell's address is:

Connell Allison  
6572 Camden Avenue  
San Jose, CA 95120

**WANT ADS**

**Saddle for sale:**

Prestige Trekker \$1,000. Comes with its original trekking saddlebags and metal support frame as well as EZ rides stirrups! Because the seat is suspended, it's really comfortable! Fits a narrow to medium width horse. Seat size is about 15.5" (western). Contact Laney at [laneyh@mbay.net](mailto:laneyh@mbay.net)

## TRAIL NEWS

### **CALTRANS ACCOMMODATES PLANNED TRAIL IN EL DORADO COUNTY** *or how to be really proactive!*

The El Dorado County Taxpayers for Quality Growth successfully sued CALTRANS to include space for a multiuse trail in the plan to widen Highway 50. The lawsuit against the California Department of Transportation and its proposed Highway 50 widening project has been settled with local advocates of the El Dorado Trail.

El Dorado County Taxpayers for Quality Growth (TQG), supporters of the Placerville General Plan, Trails Now, and the Environmental Planning and Information Council of Western El Dorado County (EPIC) were concerned that the project to widen Highway 50 might interrupt the plans for continuing the popular pedestrian, biking and riding trail westward. The groups filed suit at the end of last year, well after the Placerville City Council approved CALTRANS's plan to widen Highway 50.

Representatives from CALTRANS and the local trail groups met to seek a resolution. The subject was hard to assess since there are only tentative plans for the El Dorado Trail. Nevertheless CALTRANS accommodated the trail advocates by deeding the remainder of the right of way for the trail. In some places the trail will be narrowed but the major concerns of the trail advocates are satisfied according to a TQG press release. "We're very pleased that work on this

project can continue to move forward. It's going to have great benefit to the community," said CALTRANS spokesperson Mark Dinger.

### **THE CAPITAL TO CAPITAL REGIONAL TRAIL**

*Story submitted by Karen Chaton*

Taking a horse ride, bike trip or hike from downtown Carson City up to and around Lake Tahoe and into Sacramento may someday be a smooth and continuous route connected by a single 200-mile trail

Carson City is scheduled to be the first local government to officially endorse a regional agreement to support the Capital to Capital Regional Trail.

Project officials will ask Carson City's Parks and Recreation Commission tonight for a recommendation to support the \$30 million trail project to be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors.

"The idea is to increase public access to the Sierra Nevada and the North Fork of the American River", said John Ramirez, Placer County Administrator of Parks and Grounds.

The proposed regional link will offer transitions from oak forests to river views, from high country to lake vistas, but it will only be available by foot, horse or bike.

"We wanted a trail that general public could hike to see these spectacular areas," Ramirez said. "The existing trails are designed more for a

‘world-class athlete’ and are not easily traveled by the average person,” he said.

Some links of the proposed trail will:

- Connect the American River Parkway Trail in Sacramento to the Pioneer Express Trail through the Folsom Lake State Recreation Area, to reach the Auburn area of Placer County.
- Parallel the North Fork of the American River.
- Skirt the Granite Chief Wilderness and pass through more than 2,000 acres of recently acquired land.
- Continue through Martis Valley and connect to the Tahoe Rim Trail near Tahoe City.
- Build new trail from the Tahoe rim Trail through Kings Canyon to Carson City.

“Connecting Carson City with the rest of the proposed system and the Tahoe Rim Trail fits into existing recreation plans for Kings Canyon,” said Steve Kastens, Director of Parks and Recreation for the city. Most of the trail from the city to the connection to the Tahoe Rim Trail is already in place.

Kings Canyon Road was historically used to go to Lake Tahoe. “It’s pretty much of a natural for us,” Kastens said. “We just have to do a few things to make it a reality here in Carson.”

Placer County Supervisor Rex Bloomfield proposed the project more than a year ago, and the county has secured \$1.5 million in grant funding from the State.

Placer County will seek signatures of commitment on a memorandum of understanding from Washoe, Placer and Sacramento Counties, and Carson City and then use the document to apply for federal and state funds for the project.

The trail is expected to be completed within 10 years, if Placer County can get funding and cooperation from the public within a reasonable amount of time, Ramirez said.

The first phase of the project will be to clear vegetation and level existing trails along the path so horses, bicyclists and hikers can easily travel them, Ramirez said.

Sacramento links have already been connected to Auburn, and the project has gained letters of support from several local governments and agencies.

“There’s been a lot of support; now we’re after funding,” Ramirez said.

## SAFETEA

*This is not a new caffeine free drink!*

**This message is from Alicia Cunningham, American Horse Council, 1616 H Street NW 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Washington, DC 20006.**

**President Bush’s** proposal for new surface transportation programs, known as **SAFETEA**, contains a section that protects equine access to federal paths. Many recreational riders have experienced difficulties in maintaining access to federal paths because federal highway law specifically mentions access for hikers and bikers but no other forms of recreation. Federal law does not exclude equestrians from these walkways, but some federal managers restrict access because they claim that equestrians are not allowed because they are not specifically named in the law.

SAFETEA contains specific language that provides access to equestrians. ***However Congress has the authority to modify the President’s proposal. It is important that everyone take the time to contact their representatives in both the House of Representatives and the Senate to ask them to keep the President’s proposal in the final bill.***

Because of the anthrax scare it is faster and easier to contact your representatives by email or fax. Ask them to support the definition of “Shared Use Path” in Section 1611 as included in the President’s proposal for the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2003 (SAFETEA).

If you need an email address or fax number for your representatives, please contact Ms. Cunningham at [Alicia@horsecouncil.org](mailto:Alicia@horsecouncil.org) or call her at 202 296-4031.

## RIDE STORIES

### **Californios 100/65**

*Phone interview with Judy Reens*

Judy, Benjih, Dennis and Ffrisco all had a good time and made some fun southern California friends at the Californios. Judy liked being able to put faces to the names she had read and heard about so often. She thought that the ride was a lot of fun, challenging but not overly difficult. The campsite was on private land with cabins and corrals available. She and Dennis enjoyed the opportunity to ride part of the Pacific Crest Trail, even though Dennis and Ffrisco took a spill off a steep section of trail. The riders in their group stopped to help and got both back up on the trail safely. The mishap didn't seem to affect them since they came in 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 100 mile ride, not far behind Judy and Benjih who won and Benjih took BC, too! Judy and Dennis highly recommend the ride.

### **Mariposa Run for the Gold**

*by Karla Perkins*

The week before the ride, going at all was questionable. Blondie had slipped in the Arastadero Open Space Preserve the Friday before and my husband who was to attend the ride with me, was badly injured. His foot was broken and had to be surgically put back together on Tuesday of the ride week. On Wednesday, my mother suffered a rather severe heart attack. I changed to Plan B when all looked to be within someone else's control.

My friend, Noel, and I headed for the Mariposa Run for the Gold on Friday at 2:00 PM. I do not recommend that as a time to travel out of the Bay Area ever. We arrived quite late, barely got "the girls" (Mineral's Flaxen Athena "Blondie" and Cherubim's Flaming Sword "Cherry") checked in and vetted before dark hit. We finished setting up camp in the dark. We also barely had time to get our food cooked. A barbecue was available with "bring your own meat".

It was reasonably good food and I was happy to have it, as I had not really eaten all day.

The camping area was at the Circle 9 Ranch – in a very nice, large field. Since it was a private ranch, we were allowed much more flexibility with our campsites.

At 5:30 AM on Saturday a truck with horns blaring drove through the camp area to waken everyone. Hot coffee and some breakfast sweets were available to all.

The ride started at 6:30 AM in a light fog. The trails were reasonably well marked though it was necessary to consult the map a time or two. My leaser (who rode the 25) did manage to get herself really lost and must have done close to 40 miles!

There was plenty of water on the trail and the vet stops there was a hose available for spraying the horses, thus cutting down on the need to scoop. Quite a nice idea, really.

The weather was quite balmy so we did not have the overheating problems that were suffered at the Coe ride.

The photographers took some really nice pictures at a creek crossing in the morning mist with blooming foxglove.

After the first 25 miles it was back to base camp for the lunch hold and then out on a different course. On the second half I managed to fall into a creek while scooping water on my mare. It really is helpful to cool off from the feet up (I was in up to my knees). At about 47 miles I was kicked by the mare I had ridden with the whole day. Her owner was concerned that I was broken and I was just happy her horse missed my mare and got me on the shin instead. I really did not want to pull for something like that!

Dinner after the ride was some big burritos – and what ever you could want on them – very good. The rhubarb pie was superb; my friend ate three pieces!

The people who ran the ride were wonderful; they could not have been nicer or more helpful. There were complaints about the vetting but I thought the vet evaluations

were correct for my horses. I will definitely return next year.

### **Land of the Neversweats**

*By Marilyn Orlando*

On May 17<sup>th</sup> I ventured out to do a ride I never ridden in my 27 years of endurance competition. The ride was located outside the town of Litchfield about 20 miles from Susanville in northern California after a drive through Nevada. Even though things didn't start out so good that day, the ride turned out to be great. First off, my horse refused to load into the trailer; something he has never done before. In the process he knocked me down and ran around the yard. As a result I got a bump on my head and pulled a muscle in my shoulder. Should have let go of the lead rope sooner...Also the day before a bale of hay fell down on my leg and bruised my shinbone. I probably should have decided to stay at home, but since I was already behind two rides this year I decided to go anyway. It was also listed as an Appaloosa promotional ride.

These were not the only things that went wrong. While driving through Sacramento we had a blowout on the trailer. Even though my husband checked the tires before we left and they looked good with plenty of tread, the sidewall blew out due to sun rot. The other drivers were really courteous and let me pull off to the nearest exit over three lanes of traffic. Luckily there was a Les Schwab tire store only two blocks down that street. While the trailer was being put in the bay to change the tire I unloaded my horse and took him to a field out back where there was some nice rye grass growing so he had a chance to snack and relax. Then we were on our way. After about 9 hours driving time we finally arrived at the campsite. It seemed like we were driving to the end of the earth about that time.

After checking in my horse, we were treated to a dinner of salad, potato soup and bread plus dessert. About that time the sun went down and the wind which constantly blows there turned cold.

The next morning the wind was still blowing and a powder alkaline dust was everywhere...Guess this must be the norm for up there. My blue horse blanket had turned tan overnight!

The ride started out along the road we came in on and then turned up into the hills. Since these were formed by a volcano, the trail took us through lava rocks which made for slow going. On the other side of the hill we ended up in the desert again so could make better time of the jeep roads into the vet check. Dr. Susan McCartney was the only vet due the fact that her helper was sick and couldn't make it to the ride. Surprisingly she got everyone through the vet checks with any long lines. My respect for ability just went up another notch.

This ride is appropriately named as your horse never gets wet. They sweat but the breeze keeps them cool and dry. Mirage walked through all three vet checks with pulses of 48, 54 and 64 when he came in. He finished 16<sup>th</sup> out the 53 horses; the best he has ever done even though the ride was 55 miles. He won the first Appaloosa award and received many compliments from the locals on his appearance and performance. They loved my spotted horse!

After the ride the people whose ranch we rode on put on a great barbecue in addition to the coffee and muffins they fed us in the morning. A big thank you goes out to them for not only letting us ride on their ranch, but also feeding us. Also the management had many nice prizes for completion awards as well as a patch for all riders who finished.

They say all's well that ends well. I am certainly glad I went to that ride even though I had my doubts when I started. The management and staff were extremely rider friendly. The trail was marked every 300 yards and crew access was easy. I would recommend it to anyone who has not had the opportunity to ride in that area.

## **Everything But The Kitchen Sink Or What To Take When You Ride**

*Got the idea for this column from a CTR list.  
Most of this can be stuffed in your Easyboot bag*

Small first aid kit for self & horse that includes:

Band-aids  
Couple of gauze pads  
Advil or pain killer of choice  
Benadryl (for bee sting allergy)  
Antiseptic salve  
Vet wrap  
Small tube of toothache gel, stronger than bug itch cream  
Sanitary napkin, can be a compress  
Canister of electrolytes & syringe

Cutter bug repellent  
Small stick of Bodyglide  
Chapstick  
Thin scarf (many uses)

Small nylon straps with buckles  
Long piece of parachute-like cord  
A foot of baling wire rolled in circle  
Extra rein snap  
Small roll of duct or electricians tape

Hoofpick  
Easyboot (pack things in it)  
Swiss Army type knife  
Small flashlight  
Plastic trash sack, well folded  
A few paper towels, well folded

Two full water bottles  
Snack bars  
Couple of packets of Emergen C, a human electrolyte replacement

*More ideas are welcome; I'll put a new list in a future Quips.*

July 2003 Quicksilver quips
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### 2003 July Rides

Date	Region	Ride Name	Distance	Manager	Phone #
<b>07/05</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>Red Rock(near Reno)</b>	<b>25/50/100</b>	<b>Carol Hoeft</b>	<b>775-969-3351</b>
<b>07/12</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>Tevis Cup</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>Merv Pyorre</b>	<b>530-823-7282</b>
<b>07/26</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>Dog Valley(near Reno)</b>	<b>25/50</b>	<b>John Collier</b>	<b>775-852-6116</b>

### Early August Rides

<b>08/02</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>Fireworks</b>	<b>25/50</b>	<b>Pat Reid</b>	<b>831-458-3198</b>
<b>08/09</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>Gold Country</b>	<b>30/50</b>	<b>Cheryl Holbrook</b>	<b>530-272-9222</b>
<b>08/09</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>Swanton Pacific</b>	<b>75/100</b>	<b>Barbara McCrary</b>	<b>831-423-4572</b>
<b>08/09</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>Redwood Ride</b>	<b>25/50</b>	<b>Elaine Kerrigan</b>	<b>707-443-0215</b>

### July Quicksilver meeting Wednesday, July 16 at 7:00 PM

The July meeting will be a ride and BBQ/potluck at Calero County Park. Come ride any time you would like; plan on eating at about 7:00 PM. A-L bring salad/fruit/bread, M-Z bring dessert. The club will provide meat and drink.

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