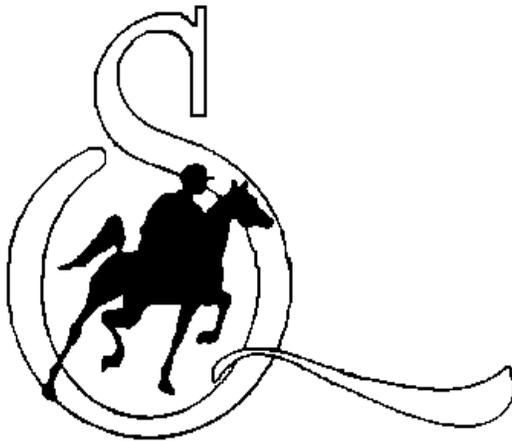


QUICKSILVER QUIPS

April 2004



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President's Message

April, boy did it come fast! By now everyone should be ready to ride and have a list of up coming events. I hope you saved the date for the Quicksilver Spring Classic at Coe Park (May 15). Doug has worked hard on a trail and now it's up to produce. We need 60+ riders to bread even so if you can't work the ride, plan on riding. Maybe we could have a special award for QSER members who ride.

For those of you who missed the Cuyama 3 day XP, you missed a great weekend. I think half the QSER club was there. Every time I turned around I saw another member. I even made the suggestion to have our meeting down there since it would have been as crowded as the awards banquet. The only person missing was MARYBEN!

El Presidente,

Steve Lenheim

MINUTES OF March 17 Board Meeting
by el Presidente

Secretary, Elaine Alston, was absent so President Steve Lenheim reported that the Board worked on the planning the Spring Classic. There was no New Business.

The club needs a Poker Ride Chairperson, a Fall Endurance Ride manager, and, if possible, a manager for the Moonlight Ride. Some ideas for speakers would be welcome or a fun type event and/or idea to perk up the membership.

Julie Suhr would like to have the June meeting at her place which is always fun. A speaker would be nice as in the past it really helped to get the members to show up. Someone must know someone with an interesting story. Give me a call with your suggestions.

How about a training ride and BBQ at Calero for September? Last year we had a good turnout for this so why not do it again?

WANT ADS

SADDLES & TACK FOR SALE

Stubben dressage saddle, 17.5, black with leather girth and small felt pad, \$700. Call Judy at 925 862-0232 or E-mail misxfire@aol.com.

Custom made Brazilian western-style endurance saddle. This saddle was made for an Arab and has never been used. \$500. Call Robert Oram at 831-761-1184.

Sharon Saare, "D" tree, 15" seat. EXTREMELY wide and fits a straight-backed horse. Probably more suited for a gaited horse. I will be in the SF Bay Area through March. Call 435-901-3480 or jenn_layman@yahoo.com

Foal or Pony blanket. Weatherbeater, waterproof and fully lined for breathability. Perfect condition - used about 8 times. Size 38. Green/blue edges. \$40.
Need to build up your horse's immune system? If you are having trouble with any of the following, a stronger immune system will help:

- Cushings
- Infections that last too long
- Allergies
- Poor hoof growth
- Pigeon breast
- Cancer

Call me for more info on **Transfer Factor Performance and Show** - a product with most all the ingredients of Platinum Performance AND the immune system booster. I've seen it work miracles. dboscoe@pacbell.net or 831 423 6461
Call Debbie Boscoe at 831 423-6461 or dboscoe@pacbell.net.

Used Crosby AGA Grand Prix 17 inch saddle with fittings, \$450. Tracy @ 408 379-6209.

Used Crosby Prix St. George dressage saddle 17 inch with fittings, \$450. Tracy @ 408 379-6209.

Used Baker blanket; \$40 size 84. Used Baker sheet; \$30 size 84. Tracy @ 408 379-6209.

New English leather bridles with laced reins, \$25 each; one is Cob size, the other is horse size. Bits & spurs, \$5-\$10. Tracy @ 408 379-6209.

Ortho-Flex Express Lite. Like new. Will include misc. tack in sale. Asking \$1500. Call Michelle at (831) 761-2578.

HORSES FOR SALE

Bay gelding, coming 9 yr old, 15 hands, 8 inch cannons, for pleasure riding. Shooter has very mild arthritis in his right front fetlock but can do LD's or trail fun stuff. He's great on the trail; he has done a multiday and a 1-day 100. He should be limited on his endurance adventures. Asking \$1500. Call Heather Reynolds at 408 778-6957.

Stalls with Paddocks/Pasture for Rent

Brand new 12x12 stalls with 24x12 paddocks, shavings; we clean. \$250, pasture \$180. Feed twice a day, high grade oat and alfalfa hay. 96x48 outdoor arena. Close to 3,600 acre Almaden Quicksilver County Park with 19 miles of manicured trails. Call Trilby at 408 997-7500 for more information.

Rooms for Rent

Now you can now live with your horse ☺

Room with bath in Trilby's barn, refrigerator and microwave. \$450 per month. 408-997-7500.

Studio apartment in Morgan Hill on Foothill Ave. One large newly painted room, with small cooking area and a bathroom. Apartment only, \$600.00, apartment with one (1) horse \$750.00. 408-569-6600, 408-710-5651 or 408 710-5651.

Dynamite Products Distributor
www.dynamiteonline.com

TRAIL EVENTS

Saturday April 17th – Bay Area Ridge Trail dedication at Almaden Quicksilver Park. The Ridge Trail is now complete from the Mockingbird Hill entrance to Lexington Reservoir! The dedication ceremony will be at the Hicks Road staging area at the corner of Hicks and Mt. Umunhum Roads from 10:00 AM to noon. Equestrians will stage at the Hacienda entrance for an easy ride to the event. Be ready to ride by 9:00 AM. Please RSVP by April 9 to the BARTC at 415 561-2595. Please mention that you are riding. Light refreshments will be served. Janice and your editor will be participating—we hope some other **QSER** members will show up too☺

Saturday April 24th – Celebrate the opening of the recently purchased Canada del Oro property and 7.2 miles of new trails at Calero County Park. The ceremony begins at 11AM, light refreshments will be served. Meet at the Calero County Park Ranger Office between 10:15-10:45 AM. RSVP by April 16 to the Santa Clara County Park Dept. at 408 355-2215. Please specify if you plan to participate in the Ranger-led horseback ride. Janice will be there.

Member News

Congratulations to these **Quicksilver Riders** who finished the very tough March **SASO**; it was hot, hot☺

50 Milers

Jeremy Reynolds & LF Sabell – 3rd, **Ken Cook & Inspirations Kruzzyr** - 6th, **Haily Daeumler, 1st Jr. & Competition Sunny** – 16th, **Gloria Vanderford & BA Resilience** – 17th, **Katie Alton & Taqi Taslyia** – 29th, **Kirsten Berntsen & Padrans Cruising** 30th.

Members who gave it a shot; **Hillorie Bachman & CV Eli, Jeff Luternauer & Dakota Dusk, Kathy Miller, Patrick Perkins**. The 25 mile ride, **Marvin Snowbarger & Magic**.

A lot of Quicksilver members had fun at the New Cuyama ride; **Beckies Hart and Glaser, Heather and Jeremy** (fastest overall and BC, too!) **Jan Jeffers**, our prez, **Steve Lenheim, Jeff Luternauer**, Board member **Trilby, Hillorie Bachman, Julie and Bob Suhr, Scott Sansom, Michele Roush, Barbara White**, our veep, **Jill Kilty Newburn, Steve Shaw, Patrick and Karla Perkins, Peggy and Bob Eaton, Megan Doyle** and last but not least **Karen Chaton**.

Maryben send me this sad message. **Rio** lost his fight with cancer today (March 16). He lived about

Jan Jeffers, sleeeker@garlic.com
408 779-4722

eight weeks longer than any of the vets at Davis thought he would. He started to get a little wobbly and lost the sparkle in his eye in the last day or so and it was time to let him go. I got an e-mail when it became known that he was sick that simply said...*Rio lead the way and still does.*

Mary Barger sent us this important announcement about the arrival of a future Quicksilver rider.

Tiffany Barger DeSantis just had a baby girl on March 11th. Vanessa Page was 6 pounds 13 1/2 oz. and 19" long. Tiffany is my daughter and many in Quicksilver Club will remember her.

Marvin's Corner

I HAVE A SUGGESTION-- At the March QS meeting I proposed that we name one of our Quicksilver Rides for Joanne Evans, to memorialize her contribution to our club. The suggestion was well-received so I'm advertising it to everyone.

Joanne was a true friend to all of us, and a bright light behind the counter at Brown's. She, along with Don, supported the club and it's activities. She also loved her animals (from horses to other critters) and had ridden endurance under the auspices of AERC. While I could eulogize her with more tributes, I think we could do that perpetually with her name attached to our primary ride each year.

My suggestion has 3 parts:

1. Our primary endurance ride each year could be called The Joanne Evans Memorial Quicksilver Endurance Ride. Obviously, there are variations on the placement of the various parts of the title(e.g. the ride could be called The Quicksilver Joanne Evans Memorial Endurance Ride, etc.) but the membership/ride management could settle on something appropriate.
2. In recognition of Joanne's interest in the role of horses in endurance competition and her general love of animals, I also suggest that the BC horse at the ride have the entry fee returned to the rider as a reward for the appropriate preparation of the horse for the event.
3. In recognition of Joanne's having ridden endurance under the AERC banner of "To Finish Is To Win", I also suggest that one entry fee be awarded to a rider/horse team who finished the ride. The

selection of the rider/horse name should be done at the Award's Presentation via a random draw.



Miss Folly's Helpful Hints

Dear Miss Folly,

Recently I injured myself and had to be confined to my stall for a few months to recover. I'm so bored that I've started to chew the fences and anything else within reach, to keep myself busy. My owner is NOT happy about this. Do you have any suggestions to relieve boredom?

Unhappy in Sacramento, CA

Dear Unhappy,

Boredom is a common problem with injured horses who are confined, so you're not alone. There are several kinds of horse toys available on the market to help relieve boredom in horses. My owner used bailing twine and drilled a hole in a turnip and hung it from the rafters. It kept me quite busy for days trying to chew on that turnip. Dipping the turnip in molasses makes it even more attractive and interesting.

Additionally, there is a product available called Bizzy Ball that is made of dried oats, alfalfa and Timothy hay, with sugar and molasses. It's yummy and is fun to play with. The company that carries it is Equestrian Safety Products. They have a website with their contact information.

Miss Folly

Handy Horse Hints

Change your stirrup leathers over from one side of the saddle to the other regularly. This will prevent the nearside one from becoming stretched by being used for mounting all the time. It also gives you the opportunity to check for leather damage.

I submit this as an expression of thanks from our club to having had Joanne in our lives.

Make a checklist of everything you will need to take with you to an endurance ride and tick the items off as they are loaded into the truck or trailer so that you do not forget anything. Fellow QS member, **Maryben Stover** has a great checklist she uses that she can share if you email her, at Maryben@aol.com.

When trimming your horse's whiskers, save a little time and produce a neater result by using a plastic safety razor instead of scissors. It is also safer if he/she tends to fidget.

If you have any hints to share with other members or would like to ask Miss Folly's advice, please email your letters to the editor of Quips at Misxfire@aol.com.

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THREE THINGS

Contributed by our veep, Jill Kilty-Newburn

1. I just thought I would share with you all about my old mare Blue. She is 21, and early in the Fall I knew she was not quite herself, but was showing few signs of anything other than just aging. By Halloween she had lost a LOT of weight. I had her worked up by a few different vets and the diagnosis was EPM. My response was horror and sorrow as I really thought that this was the end of the road for her. I recall reading a number of articles years ago, and they all were so grave. Long story short, I treated her and hoped for the best. Within a week of beginning treatment she began to regain weight and look happier.

By the end of her treatment I was becoming more optimistic. I have been doing a lot of hiking with her and she is teaching me to ride bare-back. (yee-haw) I will put new shoes on her next week and hopefully get her doing light work again. Her years as an endurance horse may be over, but she was my first horse and best buddy, and I hope to have a few more years with her. EPM is transmitted via possum feces, and I guess pretty rare. I hope you don't have to deal with it, but if you do, know that there is indeed hope

2. Be nice to folks with kids on the trail - they may be great advocates for you in the future. I was taking Jackson out in the trailer the other day and when I got to the gate there was a family standing there. When I came back to pull through they were talking to the horse. I asked the little girl how she knew his name and she said that she had seen us on the trail, and that she knew KisKaa (and that Blue was KisKaa's momma)

April 2004 quips

from the barn at Hidden Villa. This kid is about 4, and if anybody ever tells her that horses should not be allowed on the trail, I think she will have a thing or two to say about it!!

3. Product to check out: Zanfel Poison Ivy Cream. Not cheap - \$40 for a 1oz tube at Rite-Aid. I read about it in a biking magazine, and met some folks who distribute it at a trade fair. I have not had my killer case of oak for the spring yet, but have a tube ready to go for when I do. If it does the job as it is supposed to, it will be worth the \$40 several times over.

Riches to Rags

Contributed by Jeri Ayers-Scott

I worked and slaved for many years
until everything was sunny,

I chose one day to have some fun with
all my hard earned money.

I bought a big 2 acre ranch out on
the edge of town.

I bought a palomino horse that I
could ride around.

And then I bought a saddle with a
fancy padded seat,

And a silver conchoed bridle and some
Justins for my feet.

I bought a jingle'n pair of spurs and
a big ol' Stetson hat.

I bought some Copenhagen for the
pocket where I sat.

I bought a brand new trailer, and I
spent a pretty buck

On a great big, shiny, 5 speed,
tandem fifth wheel pick-up truck.

I had all my equipment; I was feeling
proud and pert,

'Til that lowdown, onerey critter
dumped my nose right in the dirt.

I hadda pay a horse trainer to break
that yellar hide,

Then I paid a little extra and he
taught me how to ride.

Though everything was fine now, I
started feeling pensive,

This happy fun filled horsey life was
getting right expensive.

No problem, though, I now was free to
ride,

And thus enjoy my well broke, well
trained toy with a palomino hide.

And then for a week that's what I did
on my high dollar pet,

But then he got the colic and I had
to call a vet.

Now if you're thinken that doctors
have a career that makes them
wealthy,

Just wait til you pay a vets bill to
keep your horses healthy!

Then ol' Yellar started limping when
he stepped down on a clod,

So I paid another wad of bills and
got that cayuse shod.

And if that wasn't quite enough then
winter came my way,

So I had to build a barn and buy a
load of hay.

Then I bought a quilted blanket and a
matching quilted hood,

To keep ol' Yellar warm and keep him
lookin' good.

Sigh!

And then I took a wife, and she had a
girl and boy,

They liked to ride my horse so much,
I bought one each for them.

I tossed more dollars at the vet, and
at the trainer too,

And don't forget the farrier with his
anvil and his shoe.

We had us 4 fine horses now, so to
get where we could ride,

I bought a bigger trailer yet, and
more money I good-byed.

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Then both those silly youngsters took
to ridin' rodeos.

Their gear and clothes and gasoline
had me paying through the nose.

And here I am today my friends, in an
agitated state,

Cause somehow, those 4 horses have
multiplied to eight.

Now I'm horse rich and money poor and
suffering great remorse,

I once was a wealthy man, than I
bought a horse!

JOIN THE QUICKSILVER ENDURANCE RIDERS

We need your name _____

And then your address _____

And your phone number, Fax, e-mail _____

And last we need the names of the other members of your family.

And then we need your money! Senior membership is \$ 15 _____
Junior membership is \$ 5 _____

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 and 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.

Club meetings are generally held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the New Almaden Community Center, Bertram Road, San Jose. The Board meets at 6:30 PM and the general meeting follows at 7:00 PM.

Send your 2004 dues, checks made out to: Quicksilver Endurance Riders, Inc.

Mail to Membership Chairperson: Maryben Stover
1299 Sandra Drive
San Jose, CA 95125-3535

May your and your horse have wonderful Year 2004 riding together as members of the QUICKSILVER ENDURANCE RIDERS.

QUICKSILVER COE SPRING CLASSIC 25 & 50 MILE ENDURANCE RIDES * MAY 15, 2004

BASE CAMP: The Stevenson Ranch, which is part of Coe Park, will be camp. The entire ride will be within the boundaries of Henry Coe State Park. Base camp can be reached by taking Highway 152 east of Gilroy or west from Highway 5. Take Canada Road (approx. 3 miles east of Gilroy off of 152) east toward the hills until reaching the Jameson & Canada Road junction. At this point Canada Road makes a hard right and Jameson road is straight on through the intersection. The camp is at the end of the road. There will be porta potties and stock water at the camp and along the trail. Bring your own drinking water. Camping is subject to the rules of the California State Department of Park and Recreation.

THE TRAIL: The ride will begin at the Stevenson ranch, go up the road to Hunting Hollow, turn up the Lyman Willson trail to Willson camp, to Steer Ridge, to Spike Jones trail, Gizzly Gulch, to Anza trail, to Grapevine trail, to Coit Springs, to Coit Camp, on to Kelly Canyon trail then to Cross Canyon trail across Coit Dam down the Coit Ridge trail to Pacheco Camp for lunch. After lunch the ride continues to Live Oak springs then to the Wagon road to the Wasno junction, then along Wasno ridge Road down the Towers trail left on to the Grizzly Gulch trail, back on the Wagon Road to the finish via Wilson Camp.

PRE-RIDE CHECK IN: Pre- veterinary check-in will be on Friday, May 14 after 3:00 pm at base camp. All horses should be checked in and numbered by Friday evening. Any riders who wish to vet in on Saturday morning must make prior arrangements with the ride secretary before 12:00, on Wednesday May 12th; because of the long distances the vets have to cover during the ride, we strongly discourage any Saturday morning check ins.

DO NOT ASSUME THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO VET IN SATURDAY MORNING

RIDE MEETING: The ride meeting will be held at base camp on Friday evening 7 pm.

RIDE START TIME: The 50-mile ride will start at 6:30 and the 25-mile ride will start at 8:00. All riders should be at the starting area 10 min. prior to the start. All riders must start within 15 min of their designated start time.

VET CHECKS: Vet checks will be away from camp on both rides. There will be no crew access during the ride. Ride management will provide trailers to transport all mounts in need of transportation back to base camp. We will provide lunches, hay and snacks for the riders and horses at the vet checks.

AWARDS DINNER: A western style Slow Smoked chicken bar-b-que with all the fixins will be served after the ride starting at approximately 5:30 PM. The ride entry fee includes dinner for the riders and extra dinners may be purchased for \$15.

RIDE RULES: As this is an AERC sanctioned ride, all AERC rules apply.

*All equines must be at least 5 years (60 months) old to participate in the 50-mile ride, and 4 years (48 months) old to participate in the 25 mile ride.

*All equines must be shod or have sort of hoof protection.

*No pregnant or nursing mares will be allowed to participate.

*A sponsor who is at least 21 years old must accompany juniors under the age of 16 years old. The sponsor must agree to stay with the junior through out the ride. If the sponsor is disqualified, the junior may continue with an alternate sponsor after notifying ride officials.

*Juniors must wear helmets.

*The ride veterinarian's opinions will be final on matters concerning the horse.

*Horses must be kept under control at all times; anyone endangering other horses, riders or anyone along the trail is subject to disqualification.

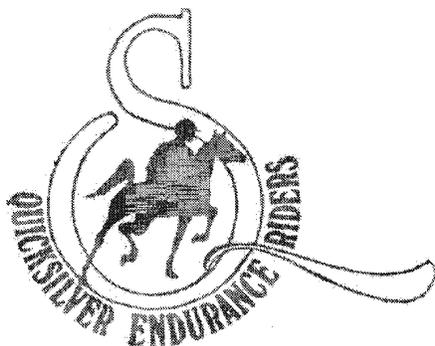
***No dogs will be allowed in camp.**

*Any abusive behavior toward ride officials or volunteers will not be tolerated. Any unsportsmanlike conduct will result in disqualification.

TREATMENT: Our head veterinarian and assistants are there to support you in taking care of your horse. It is the riders responsibility to rate and care for his / her mount- please take this responsibility seriously. If you are at all in doubt about the condition of your mount at any time during the ride, please tell one of our vets. If your horse needs veterinary treatment after the ride Valley Animal Hospital is located in Gilroy and their number is 408-847-3118 and Peninsula Equine is located about forty miles north and their number is 605-854-3162.

ENTRY FEES: The entry fee for the 50 miler is \$100, and the fee for the 25 miler is \$90. A meal is included with the entry. Horses who do not pass the pre-ride inspection will be eligible for a refund. All entry fees need to be POSTMARKED BY MAY 8TH, or received via fax by the ride secretary no later than 12:00, Wednesday May 12th...A \$20.00 late fee will be charged to all entrants after the May 8th deadline. No shows will receive no refund.

April 2004 quips



**QUICKSILVER SPRING CLASSIC
ENDURANCE RIDE 25 & 50 MILES
May 15, 2004**

Rider Name: _____ AERC# _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ First time rider? _____

City/Sate/Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail _____

Horse Name: _____ Horse AERC#: _____ Age: _____

Breed: _____ Color: _____ Sex: _____

Horse Owner : _____

Weight Division: ___FW (0-160 lbs w/tack) ___LW (161-185 lbs) ___ MW (186-210 lbs) ___HW (211+)

Junior/ DOB: _____/_____

Entry Fees

50 Mile Ride	\$100.00	_____
25 Mile Ride	\$ 90.00	_____
50 Mile Ride - Junior	\$ 50.00	_____
25 Mile Ride - Junior	\$ 45.00	_____
Late fee if postmarked after 04/08/04	\$ 20.00	_____
# _____ of extra dinners	\$ 15.00	_____
@ _____	=	_____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

NOTE: We cannot have dogs at this campsite. Any person bringing a dog into camp will be **disqualified** and asked to take the dog away from camp immediately.
Please read and sign the Liability Release on the back of this page.

Checks payable to: Quicksilver Endurance Riders
Return to: Jill Kilty Newburn
10698 Mora Drive
Los Altos, CA, 94024
Phone number: 650-949-0330
Fax on or before May 12 only: 650-948-1916

Rider Liability Release

I, _____, acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate in the Quicksilver Spring Classic Endurance Ride. I am aware that endurance riding on horseback involves being in remote areas for extended periods of time, far from communications, transportation and medical facilities, that these areas have natural and manmade hazards which ride management cannot anticipate, identify or eliminate, that horses are excitable, difficult to control and unpredictable, that accidents can happen to anyone at anytime and that such accidents can result in great bodily harm or even death of the horse and/or rider. I agree to take full responsibility for the animal I am riding. As consideration for being permitted to participate in the ride and use the facilities provided by ride management, I agree that I, my assignees, heirs, distributees, guardians and legal representatives will not make a claim against or sue Doug Reynaud, ride management, Quicksilver Endurance Riders Inc., volunteers or veterinarians, the American Endurance Ride Conference, the State of California for any accident, injury or loss that might occur due to my participation in the ride or related activities. I hereby release any and all of those persons or organizations from all actions, claims, or demands that I, my assignees, heirs, distributees, guardians, and legal representatives now have or may hereafter have for injury or damage resulting from my participation in the Quicksilver Spring Classic or related activities. I agree to indemnify any and all of those persons or organizations from any damages or expenses, including attorney's fees, occasioned by claims made by me or on my behalf relating to the ride. I have carefully read and understand this Liability Release. I fully understand its contents and my signature below constitutes acceptance to the above terms and conditions.

Date: _____ Rider Signature: _____

Junior Rider Liability Release

I, _____ am the parent or legal guardian of the minor, _____, who will be attending and/or riding in the Quicksilver Fall Classic Endurance Ride. I, the undersigned parent/legal guardian of, for and in consideration of my child's participation in the Quicksilver fall Classic, agree not to make a claim against or sue Doug Reynaud, ride management, Quicksilver Endurance Riders Inc., volunteers or veterinarians, the American Endurance Ride Conference, the State of California for any accident, injury or loss to my child or my child's horse under my child's control. I hereby release any and all of those persons or organizations from all actions, claims, or demands that I, my assignees, heirs, distributees, guardians, and legal representatives now have or may hereafter have for injury or damage resulting from my child's participation in the Quicksilver Spring Classic or related activities. I also authorize any officer, director or supervisory personnel of the Quicksilver fall Classic to consent on our behalf for any emergency medical treatment which may be required for our child and agree to indemnify and hold harmless anyone giving such consent. I have carefully read and understand this Liability Release. I fully understand its contents and my signature below constitutes acceptance to the above terms and conditions.

Date: _____ Signature of parent/ guardian: _____

Save Our Trails 25/50

By Barbara White

Doug and I went to the Save Our Trails 50 near Palmdale on March 6th. We were disappointed by the cancellation of SASO, so we decided the 8 hour drive was worth it to get out of the mud and get a riding fix. At the AERC Convention I talked with some people from that area who were familiar with a predecessor ride of this one, the Midsummer Madness. I was told that ride was a bit of a disaster, but now this was under new management and should be better. I figured we should prepare for anything, and whether we finished or not, a ride in the desert would still be fun.

I'm pleased to report that this was an extremely well run ride with a high finishing rate and plenty of happy, helpful volunteers. The ride was sponsored by AVTREC, with the purpose of making money to help save the trails in Antelope Valley. Suellen Hall was the competent ride manager, and the vets were Fred Beasom and Hugh Hewitt. Good directions led us to a sandy area where the ride camp was set up. A very large tent was used for meals and meetings, and the usual amenities of portapotties and water troughs were present. With only 42 starters in the 50 and about 20 in the 25, there was plenty of room for parking.

The trail consisted of a 25 mile loop, repeated by the 50 milers, with the hour vet check back in camp. A spot about 13 miles down the trail was used for two 20 minute vet checks. Apples, carrots, hay, and water were in plentiful supply, as well as treats and drinks for the riders, at the checks. The trail was almost all sand, some deep, on the valley floor, A rain a few days before settled the dust, making the conditions very pleasant. We climbed up and around several buttes, which

provided interesting views of the valley. The snow covered, tall, San Gabriel Mountains to the south were quite a contrast to the dry trail and rocky buttes we were traversing.

The trail was very well marked, but only the front runners needed any guidance. Hoofprints in the sand were easy to follow for everyone else. We crossed a few roads, but Doug and I had to stop and actually wait for traffic to pass only once.

38 of the 42 starters finished the 50. Three were pulled for lameness and one for metabolic problems. Tracy Cary won the best conditioned award, along with her first place award. Awards for everyone else were a variety of donated items from local tack and feed stores. Everyone got different items. Coming in 23rd and 24th, Doug and I were awarded tee-shirts, alfalfa pellets, two syringes of Stress-Dex, and a subscription to Trail Blazer magazine. Halters, blankets, tubs, etc., were being handed out. It reminded me of the Quicksilver Awards Banquet when Maryben brings a Santa's sack full of delights.

Ron Belknap got the equivalent of the hardluck award. His mare and he separated company at about 17 miles. Somehow she got back to camp, unharmed, and he jogged in. Determined to finish the ride, he and his not so clever mount were hauled back to the 17 mile mark, where he followed the trail to finish the first loop, had his vet check and break, and then proceeded to do the second loop. He figured it cost him about two hours in time, but he had been going fast so finished with plenty of time to spare.

We stayed over night in camp before starting our long trailer trek to I-5 and up the valley the next day. It was a spectacular full moon night, with the overnighters in good spirits and their mellow horses munching on hay. At

12:30 AM I was awakened by an equine ruckus at the end of our trailer. Thinking our two horses were fighting, I jumped out to see a loose horse go by and to hear people shouting things such as, "It's the stallion." and, "Be careful, he kicks!" He was quickly captured, the lights soon went off, and quiet settled on the camp. But my mare, who shares her pasture with a couple of boring geldings, thought the renegade stallion was wonderful and spent the night calling to him in nickers and soft whinnies. I guess living creatures are never too tired for love.

Well run ride, moderate trail, good food, friendly volunteers, and lots of green grass at the freeway rest stops for traveling grazing breaks; I recommend it.

Although there are no other Quicksilver club members here to ride in the Central region, I thought a ride report might be of interest to see how other parts of the country run their rides. Mike Maul

March 6th was the date of the first ever endurance ride in Louisiana in the Kisatchie National Forest north of Lake Charles. Given that there are only 7 AERC members in Louisiana, this was quite an adventure. The ride was managed by Fred Myer and assistant manager Ken Bridges of Louisiana. Because it was a first time ride for the location and managers - they received a lot of help from experienced managers and volunteers in neighboring Texas. There was a fun 15, a 25 mile LD, and a 55 mile endurance ride.

Heading off on Friday to the ride in a light rain, I thought about how many times that I'd done this before and found that when the ride actually started - the weather was beautiful. It was true again for this ride with mid 50 degree weather at night and mid 70s during the day.

Humidity started out high as it always does in the gulf states with 96% in the early morning dropping to a low of 45% during the day as the temperature went up. Crossing into Louisiana from Texas was casinos and parishes as the counties of Louisiana are called.

Ridecamp was in the national forest which

is mostly longleaf pines. Longleaf pines once covered 90 million acres in the southeast but now cover only 3 million acres mostly in the Coastal Plains of the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, and Texas. Though much of the forest was devastated by logging during the Depression, this land has been reforested and the only traces of this era are the mills and railroad beds hidden within the lush longleaf pine.

For those whose roots go far back into the history of the southeastern U.S., chances are that longleaf pine forests played a role in the livelihood of their ancestors. Longleaf was literally the tree that built the South. Aside from lumber that was used to build homes, businesses, ships, and so on, longleaf pine forests provided fare for the dinner table, medicines, a place to graze cattle, extract resin to refine turpentine or simply as a place to go out and listen to the whispering of the pines."

Concerning the forest itself, most people would think bayou when asked to picture a Louisiana landscape. But the 600,000-acre forest, split into six separate tracts, has several areas that are located in hilly, pine-strewn terrain. Our trails were sandy with some exposed roots and hidden holes where an unwary horse and rider might punch thru for 6 inches or more. There was quite a bit of water on the trail after the rains the week before. Sponging is an art in the CT and SE regions and is something I'd forgotten in the west where scoops are the common tool for equine cooling.

Before the ride there was a full moon during the night after a light rain earlier in the day. The trees were still damp and water was slowly dripping from the tall slender longleaf pines to the sandy soil beneath where we and our horses camped. The water had formed small beads on the pine needles and with the full silver moon shining thru - they looked like a set of tiny bright stars nestled in the branches close to earth.

The ride statistics were 6 fun riders, 20 LD starters with 10 finishers, and twenty three 55 mile starters and 13 finishers. The winner of the 55 was Darolyn Butler-Dial in 7:32 with BC being taken by 6th place finisher AJ Wyldfyre ridden by Mark McBride of Texas. The loops were 19 miles and 18 miles twice where we did

the same loop forward and backwards. An early start at 6:30 put us off in a cool but deceptively high humidity.

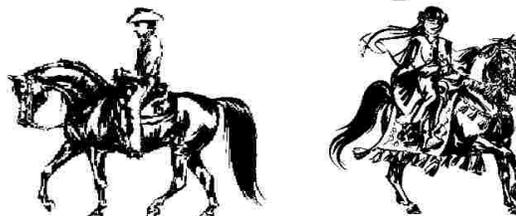
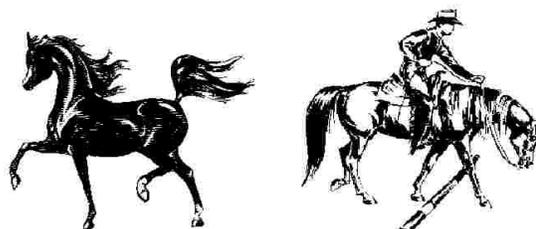
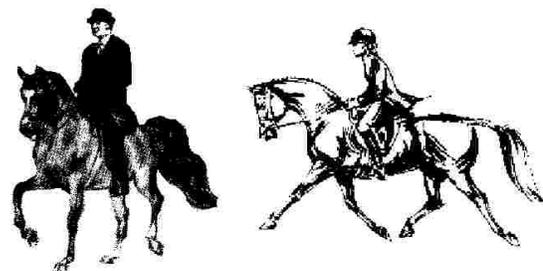
My horse was from the west and had never seen a day with more than 30% humidity unless it was raining. The riders in regions like this electrolyte a lot more than you see in west region rides - the night before, the morning before, every vet check, and even between vet checks on the long loops.

Endurance rides vary over the country - here I heard accents from Texas, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas. The trails are sandy, the temperature and humidity are different than what I've been experiencing for the past five years in the west but there are lots of things that are the same everywhere.

The beauty of the full moon limning our camp during the night, the sounds of the pines in the choral wind, the camaraderie of riders on the trail, the sounds of horses eating quietly next to the trailer during the night, people walking their horses in the morning after the ride, and most of all our equine partners made this very much like the rides I've done in other parts of the country.

There are unexplained things too - like the rider we passed on the trail walking and carrying his horse's reins. He had been in the bushes when his horse took off and ran all the way into camp. But carrying the reins...?

It was a nice first ride and managers Myers and Bridges already have plans for next years ride in the works.



April 2004 quips

Michele is responsible for selling the jerseys so let's support her and the rest of the team by buying one. They will help your crew spot you at the rides or help you spot your crew; buy one for each member ☺

These jerseys are going to be available for purchase all year and each team member will be asked to sell a minimum of 10 to help raise funding for uniforms and additional costs. This is our "Girl Scout Cookies" campaign! So talk to your friends, family and crew...and get the orders to us. These shirts are really nice 100% pre-shrunk heavy weight cotton Rugby Jerseys with a very bold USA graphic. We will all look fantastic at the WEC! The manufacturing Company is in Canada and makes them specifically for Rugby Uniforms, so they are really well made.

National Team Rugby Jersey



100% pre-shrunk Heavy weight Cotton. Bold graphics represent your support for your US National Team. Generous cut in shoulders, slim in waist, not bulky. Easy to tuck in to jeans or wear with riding tights! Unisex sizes (See order sheet) Order one size up if you like a more relaxed fit.

\$75.00

Proceeds go directly to benefit the US National Team expenses for the World Endurance Championships.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Shipping Address (if different from above)

Unisex Sizes	Quantity	Total \$
XS- special order		
S- Ladies equiv. size 4-6		
M-Ladies equiv. size 8-10		
L- Ladies equiv. size 12-14		
XL-Ladies equiv. size 14+		
2XL-5XL available (specify)		

Please accept my additional donation to the US National Team in the amount of \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

April 2004 quips

Check payable to: Michele Roush. **Mail to:** Art Priesz, 1824 320th Street, Ivanhoe, MN 56142

2004 APRIL Events

Date	Region	Ride Name	Distance	Manager	Phone #
03/17	W	Shine & Shine Only	25/50	Becky Grand Hart	408-997-0814
03/17	W	Whiskeytown Chaser	25/50	Shelly Nelson	530-223-3553
03/17	W	High Desert Classic	30/50	Nancy Oglo Upham	775-423-3844
03/17	PS	Hog Wild I	35/50	Tammy Robinson	661-513-9269
03/18	"	Hog Wild II	"		"
03/24	W	American River Rides	30/50/70	Marilyn Hunter	530-885-4819
03/24	PS	Californios Lite	30/50	Vern Biehl	661-724-1060

EARLY may RIDES

05/01	W	Washoe Valley	25/50/100?	Connie Creech	775-882-6591
05/01	PS	Sunriver's Trek I	50	Roxanne Green	818-352-7363
05/02	"	Sunriver's Trek II	"		"

APRIL 21, 2004 Meeting

at the New Almaden Community center on Bertram rd, behind la foret
6:00 PM BOARD MEETING
(Members Welcome)
7:00 PM GENERAL MEETING

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