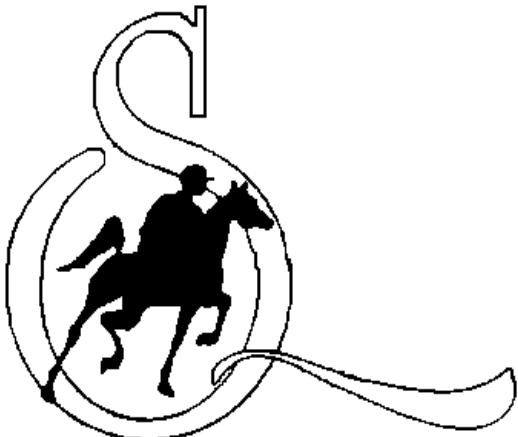


QUICKSILVER QUIPS

October 2003



OFFICERS

President Lori Oleson
Vice President Jill Kilty-Newburn
Secretary Maryben Stover
Treasurer Kathy Miller

BOARD MEMBERS

Jeannette Brown
Steve Lenheim
Trilby Pederson

Chief Mover and Shaker: Mike Maul

Newsletter editor: Judy Etheridge
P. O. Box 62, Sunol, CA 94586-0062
(925) 862-0232 misxfire@aol.com

President's Message

The Fall Ride is just around the corner and everyone's help is needed (unless you plan on riding, then you are excused). Jill still has quite a few positions open so give her a call or e-mail her and let her know you are available to participate. It should turn out to be a great ride with high attendance because Lake Sonoma the following week has already been cancelled.

Quicksilver members were very successful at the Pan Am again this year. Michele Roush-Shaw (Pac North) won a team Gold, Heather Reynolds (Pac South) won individual Silver, Judy Reens (Pac South) was 15th, and Gloria Vanderford (Pac North) was 31st. Congratulations!

Next months meeting will be at the Community Center. We will be nominating new officers for next year's board.

Lori**How Rats became Star***by your editor*

I bought Rats, registered name Rocket Star, a 14'1" Arab mare a couple of years ago as the horse for my old age—I wanted a short one, horse, not old age. She turned out to a lot more than I had bargained for and definitely was not for the senior set. She bucked, she set back, she pulled on the bit, she balked or backed up in between trying to go as fast she could, she didn't want to get in to the trailer, etc., etc. As far as I was concerned she was actually speeding me towards my old age. I didn't think calling her Star was appropriate so Ken came up with Rats which stuck.

But I perservered in between threats to sell her to a certain southern California rider who likes fast little grey mares. As I wrote last month we got through a two day NATRC ride in one piece which gave me some hope.

In the last few days she earned the right to be called Star. Last Saturday I was timing an NATRC ride with a friend whose horse shied violently and threw her off. Rats, no Star, kept her cool; after checking out my friend, we found her horse and ponied him back to her. After getting help for my friend who was not seriously injured and enduring the commotion and noise of the emergency vehicles (which come whether or not they are really necessary, sigh), Star ponied my friend's horse all the way back to camp and was not upset when he left and she was alone with us overnight.

Yesterday while we were trailering back out to the NATRC ride site the truck broke down. Star had to stay in the trailer for 6-1/2 hours while being towed here and there, and never fussed a bit. We finally were left off at our park; I hopped on her and rode home to get my car to pick up Ken

and our dog, another story. The tow truck operator, a fellow horse owner, was very impressed at how well Star behaved during the whole long day and so was I.

Our next adventure will be her first 50 at the Quicksilver Fall Classic. Look for the perfectly behaved little mare, hope, hope!

Board and General Meeting Minutes
for
September 17, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM
Present were:

Lori Oleson	Trilby Pederson
Steve Lenheim	Jeanette Brown
Kathy Miller	Jill Kilty-Newburn
Maryben Stover	

Also attending: Mike Newburn, Marvin Snowbarger, Pat McKendry, Marilyn Orlando and Helen Harvey.

Treasurer's report:

Checking Account:

Balance June 30, 2003	\$7336.30
Deposits	12.50
Expenses	1998.19
New Balance	<u>5330.70</u>

**Treasurer's Report through
September 1, 2003**

General Account as of June 30, 2003
Beginning Balance \$7,536.39

Deposits	12.50
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Checks Issued:

Judy Etheridge	356.97
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Rent for meetings	160.00
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Mike Maul	50.00
Port-O-San Co.	490.00
Maryben Stover	18.34
National Equine Ins.	40.00
Absolute Barbecue	850.00
Service Charges	30.00
Addition Error	2.88 (1,998.19)
Ending Balance	\$5,350.70

There is no change in the Trails Account and Junior Account until I get new statements.

Submitted by Treasurer, Kathy Miller.

Committee Report

- Trails: There will be a dedication of the Bay Area Ridge Trail and Santa Clara County Parks parking lots, now under construction, at Hicks Rd and Mt. Umunhum Road on October 25, 2003. More information to come at the next meeting.

Unfinished Business

- QS Spring Classic – mirror - Scott Sansom not present
- QS Fall Classic update – Jill - We have the permit, caterer, and awards. Need the following the day of the ride: P&R people, timers, help with cooking, trail spotters, and clean up.

New Business

- St. Jude Benefit Ride - Karel Waugh reported that the St. Jude Children's Hospital Benefit Ride is scheduled for October 25, 2003 at Swanton north of Santa Cruz. It is a 5-6 or 15-mile loop ride to benefit the children being cared for at St. Jude's. Call Karel at 408 353-1466 for an entry.
- San Martin Horsemen's Poker Ride is October 26th at Calero.
- Almaden Days in September benefits the Community Center – It was

suggested we donated some of the proceeds from our Fall Ride. We will wait until the November meeting to determine if this donation can be made or wait until next year.

Next meeting is at the Almaden Community Center on October 15th. This will be the final meeting prior to the Fall Ride, and nominations for next year's officers.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Minutes submitted by acting secretary Jeanette Brown.

Want Ads

Horse for Sale

Ed. comment, this is no ordinary horse! 16 year old bay Arabian gelding, 14.3 hands, large-framed body, pretty head, great personality, over 2000 AERC miles. Earned his IAHA Legion of Honor in 2000. Intermediate or experienced rider; he is well behaved but still has a lot of get up and go. Kassiq+ knows basic dressage, travels well and would be great for camping. For more information, contact Lori at (408) 776-0199 or lorioleson@hotmail.com.

Saddle for Sale

Steubben dressage saddle for medium/wide backed horse. 18 inch seat, black with matching leather dressage girth, no stirrups or leathers, plus a high density foam pad. This saddle is in excellent condition. Call Judy 925-862-0232 or mixfire@aol.com for more information.

Trailer for Sale

"77 Miley 2 horse trailer, new ramp, axle, spare tire. Carla Ambriz at (408) 569-6600.

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. Direct access to 3,600 acre Almaden Quicksilver

County Park with 19 miles of manicured trails. Call Trilby at 408 997-7500 for more information.

Horses to Exercise Wanted or the answer to every endurance rider's dream—from Julie S.

Sheila Kumar of Saratoga (408) 741-8843 would like to help exercise somebody's horse or horses. She has a horse that she thinks is only a Limited Distance horse and wants to eventually go to 50 milers. She can ride M-W-F mornings and until 3 PM.

Dynamite Products Distributor
www.dynamiteonline.com
Jan Jeffers
408 779-4722

FASTRACK Probiotics at a direct discount from the Manufacturer. If you are interested in trying daily and supplemental probiotics now is the time. Promote health, increase performance, ensure a healthy digestive tract at a low cost. For more information contact Wild Eye Arabians, Kirsten and Michael Berntsen at 831-623-2120 or kirstenzazz@hotmail.com or www.conklin.com/wildeyearabians.

TRAIL NEWS from Janice Frazier
Fall Trail Days Santa Clara Cnty Parks

Come on out and help repair, restore or build the following trails on these dates:

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Nov 1 | Vallecitos Trail at Calero |
| Nov 8 | Rocky Ridge Trail, Santa Teresa |
| Nov 15 | Stiles Trail at Santa Teresa |
| Nov 22 | Vallecitos Trail at Calero & New Almaden Trail |
| Nov 30 | Table Mountain Trail at Upper Steven's Creek Park |
| Dec 6 | Rocky Ridge Trail and Stiles Trail at Santa Teresa |
| Dec 13 | Great Eastern at Almaden Quick |
| Dec 20 | Rocky Ridge Trail at Santa Teresa |
| Dec 21 | Table Mountain Trail at Upper |

- | |
|--|
| Steven's Creek Park |
| Jan 3 Stiles Trail at Santa Teresa |
| Jan 10 Prospect #3, Almaden Quicksilver |
| Jan 18 Table Mountain Trail at Upper Steven's Creek Park |

Work begins at 8:00 AM. Tools, gloves, water and snacks are provided. For more information and to sign up contact the Volunteer Coordinator at (408)355-2264 or the Trails Program at 408 629-9367 or visit parkhere.org.

Julie sent this from the San Jose Mercury

Three trails getting upgrades and staging area being built at Almaden Quicksilver Park

Winding through shady groves of oak woodland and across sunny, grass-covered hillsides, the trails in Almaden Quicksilver Park seem far removed from the sprawling Santa Clara Valley below.

Passing hikers flush coveys of quail from the brush. A six-point buck munches on vegetation on a steep hillside, and a doe and her fawn flit across the trail to disappear into the blue oak and madrone woods.

Form the highest ridge lines, the high-rise office buildings of downtown San Jose 10 miles distant are visible.

And then comes the construction zone where the bucolic landscape gives way to a wide, barren gash in the earth, looking more like a deserted dirt road than a park trail.

It's only temporary, said Khoa Vo, shifting the vehicle into four-wheel drive to ascend a very steep hill on the trail.

"We have to let the dust settle. Things will be back in pristine condition," said Vo, who is managing the Santa Clara County Parks Department project to upgrade the trails in the rural park in the hills above San Jose's Almaden Valley.

By spring, when the vegetation has regrown to the sides of what will be a 10-foot-wide pathway, the Virl Norton and Hacienda trails, now open only to hikers and equestrians, will be usable by mountain bicyclists and horse carts.

The upgrade of the Virl Norton, Hacienda and Deep Gulch trails, and the construction of anew staging area for visitors to enter the park

from Hicks road on the west, are part of a \$350,000 project. The parks department is paying half the cost; a grant from the Coastal conservancy through the Bay Area Ridge Trail council is funding the rest.—Frank Sweeney

Ridge Trail News

On Saturday, October 25 11.8 miles of Ridge Trail will be dedicated in Sierra Azul from Lexington Reservoir to Hicks Road. Call 415 561-2595 by October 17 if you wish to ride, hike or mtn. bike on the trail after the dedication ceremony from 9:30-11:00 AM at Los Gatos Christian Church, 16845 Hicks Road, Los Gatos. *I'll have more info at the endurance ride on the 18th.*

Riding in a Cathedral

by Mike Maul

The early morning rays filter through ancient redwood groves like the sun's rays of past centuries through the stained glass windows of a huge, ancient cathedral that we are riding through. The pillars separating the aisles are towering redwoods. The alters and tables are stumps cut flat and turned black through the decades. The open roads become aisles leading to the nave where the parishioners would be seated in the center of the cathedral.

If you weren't planning to ride your favorite horse through an old cathedral - but wish you could - ride in the redwoods a few miles from the Pacific Ocean. It's the closest you are ever likely to come. Ancient hollow trees resemble confessionals. Their bases burned and scarred by fires past remembrance, they appear in wait to receive the penitent rider. Or perhaps they are small oratories for private and individual prayer to that which brought these magnificent forests to life. Small meadows are similar to a Garth - a garden or court within a cloister near the cathedral. In the spring they fill with wild flowers and a green cover that our mounts of this day would like to graze.

Dust shines in the slanting rays of the early morning sun: rising from the passage of prior riders and then floating lightly back to the soft carpet of the forest floor. Shadows move in the drifting haze, but for once our horses don't seem to see them or at least they don't take notice.

We drift quietly through the ancient redwood cathedral. The hollow beat of hooves echoing the footfalls of reverent travelers visiting this church along their pilgrimage trail. I catch myself absently looking for the sanctuary where the clergy of this ancient church might be found. Listening for the choir. But the stillness is unbroken by other than riders and their equine partners. It's dark and cool among the trees even with the sun bright overhead.

I lean back and look up at the dizzying height of slender spires. The redwoods reach up to the heavens almost as if they were the conduit of prayers leaving our redwood cathedral. We traverse narrow switchback trails with our Arab mounts in a similar way to the narrow, tight staircases found in the ancient churches that rise to the upper parts of our cathedral.

In the afternoon the wind sighs through the tops of the trees: a choir singing for the passing riders. The forest smell in the wind provides counterpoint to the psalms of the swaying treetops. I wonder if our mounts have an equine equivalent of a reverent place like this - with the smells of the living forest rising up around us and the soft sounds of hoof beats following us through this redwood cathedral. But for now - it's enough that we have our day in church among the redwoods with our friends and equine partners.

While we each would find that the description below of our discipline is all wrong and based on exaggerated stereotypes, you have to admit that the unknown author has nailed all the other disciplines...

RIDING DISCIPLINES EXPLAINED

The Backyard Rider:

Usually found wearing shorts and sports bra in summer, and flannel nightgown, muck boots and down jacket in winter. Drives a Ford Tempo filled with saddle blankets and dog hair. Most have deformed toes on one or the other foot from being stepped on while wearing thin Keds sneakers. Pulls a two-horse bumper-pull trailer stored behind the barn, used for hay storage. Her horse, Snookums, sports a hand-cut (with scissors) bridle path; duct tape holds a shoe for the shoer to put on when he comes by next month. Overheard frequently: "It's too hot/cold/wet/dry to ride."

The Endurance Rider:

Wears Lycra tights in wild neon colors. The shinier the better, so the EMT's can find her body when her horse dumps her down a ravine. Wears hiking shoes of some sort, and T-shirts she got for paying \$75 to complete another torturous ride. Her horse, Al Kamar Shazaam, used to be called "you b&t&rd" until he found an owner as hyper as he. Can spook at a blowing leaf, spin a 360 and not lose his big trot rhythm or give an inch to the horse behind him. Has learned to eat, drink, pee and drop to his resting pulse rate on command; he has compiled 3,450 AERC miles-- with his rider compiling 3,445--the missing five miles are the ones when he raced down the trail without his rider after performing his trademark 360. Over-heard frequently: "Anyone have Advil?" "Anyone got some food? I think last year's Twinkies finally went bad." "For this pain I spend money?" "Shazaam, you b&t&rd-- it's just a leaf [thud]!"

The Natural Horsemanship Devotee:

Looks like a throwback from a Texas ranch, despite the fact that he lives in the suburbs of New Jersey. Rope coiled loosely in hand in case he needs to herd any of those kids on roller-blades away from his F-350 dually in the WalMart parking lot. Cowboy hat strategically placed, and just dirty enough to look cool. Levi's are well worn. "Lightning" is, of course, this natural horsemanship guy's horse. Rescued from a bad home where he was never imprinted or broke in the natural horsemanship way, he specialized in running down his owners at feeding time, knocking children off his back on low-hanging branches, and baring his teeth to look mean. The hospitalization tally for his previous handlers was 12, until he was sent to Round Pen Randy; after ten minutes in said pen, he is now a totally well-broke horse, bowing to the crowd, and can put on his own splint boots (with R.P. Randy's trademark logo embossed on them). R.P.R. says, of all this, "Well, shucks ma'am, tweren't nuthin'!" "It's simple horsemanship." "With this special twirly flickitatin' rope (\$17.95 plus tax), you'll be

round-pennin' like me in no time!"

The Dressage Queen:

Is freshly coiffed and dressed. Diamond stud earrings are elegant and stately, and not so large that they blind the judge during her passage-piaffe movements. Her \$30 dollar denim jumper is worn over \$300 full-seat white breeches and custom Koenigs. Her horse Fleistergeidelesprundheim ("Fleistergeidel" for short) is a 17.3-hand warmblood who was bred to make Grand Prix in a European nation where his sellers are still laughing hysterically when they talk about 'zat crazy American.' Despite being runty, his new owner fell in love with his lofty gaits, proud carriage and tremendous athleticism. Never mind that this talent was not revealed until he was chased by a rabid fox, and has not been repeated since.

The Hunter/Jumper Competitor:

Is in a wide-striped polo shirt and beige beeches. The polo is so folks will know they're a jumper rider until they put on their shirt and stock tie. Baseball cap is mandatory after a ride, in order to exhibit free advertising for that trainer's stable for which they've forked over a mere grand or so per month. Her horse, Neverbeenraced, is a prime example of American Thoroughbred. The coat is deep bay, no markings, a textbook TB head (no jowl), and no unusual conformation characteristics other than crooked legs. Perfect, just perfect. The gelding has learned to count strides all by himself, and asks in midair which lead his mistress would like to land on today.

The Eventer:

Is always hunched over. Bent forward under the load, it's from carrying three of everything. It brings down the house when he stops saddles, three bridles, three bits, and all related color-coordinated gear to every three-day event on the East Coast, or it could possibly be a defensive stance for protecting his/her wallet, which is, of course, nearly empty after buying three saddles, three bridles, three bits and all that color-coordinated gear. Looked down on by the H/J set as "people who just run their horses at fences" and by the dressage queens as "not pure dressage riders", eventers are smugly convinced that they are in fact the only people in the world who CAN ride, since the H/J's don't jump real fences and the dressage queens don't ride real horses. One popular horse, Fastnighasican, is a Thoroughbred track reject who had never won (or placed) in a single race. Perfect eventer! He has two speeds: gallop and stop'n'dump, which are used at his discretion for all three phases of eventing. His favorite stunt is performed at cross-country water obstacles where his rider invariably stands up slimed in waist-deep in murky pond water and threatens to sell him to Fleistergeidel's owner. Called "Hi-ass" for short, Fastnighasican delights in another hilarious speed variation, the imfreecandyoucantcatchmegallop, a real crowd-pleaser and licks the Crisco off his legs before continuing on to the merciless telephone-pole jump just ahead

QUICKSILVER FALL CLASSIC – A BENEFIT FOR THE BAY AREA RIDGE TRAIL

25 & 50 MILE ENDURANCE RIDES * OCTOBER 18, 2003

Base camp: The ride will begin at Calero County Park, cross some private property, go through Quicksilver County Park and return to Calero. Base Camp is located near the entrance of Calero Park on Bailey Road and will have porta potties and horse water. Camping is subject to the rules of Santa Clara County Parks Department.

The Trail: There will be a 50 mile endurance ride and a 25 mile limited distance ride. Most of the trail is doublewide park roads, but there will be some single track and about a half of a mile of riding down the shoulder of a residential street. There are several water troughs for horses. As per County Park rules, there is No Smoking on the trail.

Pre-Ride Check In: Pre-veterinary check-in will be on Friday, October 17 after 3pm at base camp. All horses should be checked in and numbered Friday evening. Any rider who wishes to vet their horses in on Saturday morning must make arrangements with the ride secretary before 12:00, on Wednesday October 15; do NOT assume that you will be able to check horses in on Saturday unless you have notified the ride secretary.

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

Ride Start Time: The 50 mile ride will start at 6:30 AM and the 25 mile ride will start at 8:00 AM. All riders should be at the starting area 10 minutes before the start of the ride to give their numbers to ride management. All riders must start within 30 minutes of their designated start time.

Vet Checks: Vet checks will be away from camp on both rides. There will be crew access to the Mockingbird Vet check. Please do not bring trailers to the Mockingbird parking lot, as space is limited. Ride management will provide trailer rides back to camp for all horses pulled. We will have hay, water and snacks for you and your horses at the vet checks.

Awards Dinner: A catered Tri Tip Steak Dinner (or vegetarian option) will be served after the ride and begin at approximately 5:30. The ride entry fee includes dinner for riders and extra dinners may be purchased for \$15.

Ride Rules: As this is an AERC sanctioned ride, all AERC rules apply.

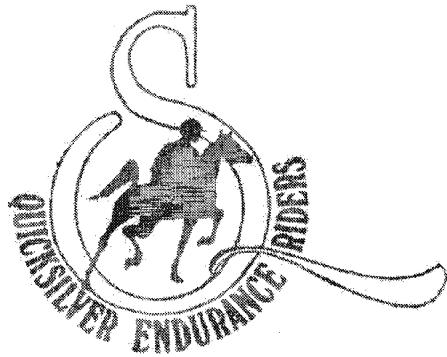
- ◊ All equines must be at least 5 years (60 months) old to compete in the 50 mile ride, and at least 4 years (48 months) old to participate in the 25 mile ride.
- ◊ All equines must be shod or have some sort of hoof protection.
- ◊ No pregnant or nursing mares will be allowed.
- ◊ A sponsor who is at least 21 years old must accompany juniors under the age of 16 years old. The sponsor must agree to stay with the junior throughout the ride; if the sponsor is disqualified, the junior may continue with an alternate sponsor after notifying ride officials.
- ◊ Junior riders must wear helmets.
- ◊ The ride veterinarian's opinions will be final on all 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.
- ◊ Dogs must be on a leash at all times.
- ◊ Any abusive behavior towards ride officials or volunteers will not be tolerated. Any unsportsmanlike conduct will result in disqualification.

Treatment: Our head veterinarian is Michele Shaw. She and her assistants are there to support you in taking care of your horse. It is the riders responsibility to rate and care for his/her horse - please take this responsibility seriously. If you are at all in doubt about the condition of your horse at any time during or after the ride, please tell one of our vets. If you find that 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 30 miles north and their phone number is 650-854-3162.

Entry Fees: The entry fee for the 50 mile ride is \$100, and the 25 mile ride is \$90. A meal is included with each entry. Horses who do not pass the pre-ride inspection will be eligible for a refund. All entry fees need to be **postmarked by October 11**, or received via fax by the ride secretary no later than 12:00 PM, Wednesday, October 15. (She is not there after 12:00 - so get it in early!) A \$20 late fee will be charged to all entrants after the October 11 deadline. No shows will receive no refund.

OctobER 2003 QUICKSILVER QUIPS

Calero County Park: Is located at 23201 McKean Road, San Jose California, 95120. It is easily accessible from HWY 101 by taking the Monterey Highway south to Bailey Road, which dead ends at McKean. Take a left on McKean and the park entrance will be on your right.



QUICKSILVER FALL CLASSIC ENDURANCE RIDE

25 & 50 MILES * OCTOBER 18, 2003

Rider Name: _____ AERC# _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ First time rider? _____

City/Sate/Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

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

Breed: _____ Color: _____ Sex: _____

Horses Owner : _____

Weight Division: _____ FW (0-160 lbs w/tack) _____ LW (161-185 lbs) _____
MW (186-210 lbs)

_____ HW (211 lbs+) _____ 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 after 10/11	\$ 20.00	_____
# _____ of extra dinners @	\$ 15.00	_____
	=	

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Checks payable to: Quicksilver Endurance Riders
Return to: Maryben Stover

1299 Sandra Dr.

San Jose, CA, 95125

Phone number: 408-265-0839

Fax on or before: 12 PM, October 15, 2003

Please read and sign the Liability Release below.

Rider Liability Release

I, _____, acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate in the Quicksilver Fall 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 Jill Kilty-Newburn, ride management, Quicksilver Endurance Riders Inc., volunteers or veterinarians, Jim Green, the American Endurance Ride Conference, the County of Santa Clara 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 Fall 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 Jill Kilty-Newburn, ride management, Quicksilver Endurance Riders Inc., volunteers or veterinarians, Jim Green, the American Endurance Ride Conference, the County of Santa Clara 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 Fall 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:_____

Owyhee High Country Ride

We set off on Wednesday morning for the ride in Idaho, planning to stay in Winnemucca on the way up to the base camp in Oreana. The horses rode nicely on the long trip from Carmel Valley to the fairgrounds in Winnemucca. We had the whole place to ourselves and it was \$10.00 per horse per night. Great recommendation from Julie Suhr to stay there!

The next am we were off to our final destination – only 6 hours later we found the turn off for the Oreana Loop Road (GREAT directions from John and Steph by the way!) and we headed down a long rocky road to their ranch about 5 miles down. Due to a nasty gully-washer storm, the road had been very badly damaged, but was repaired by a very thoughtful neighbor with his hard working bulldozer.

Arriving at camp (we were the 3rd rig to arrive), we were able to obtain a nice pipe paddock (provided by John and Steph for a small daily fee) next to the creek and in the shade of some trees. The weather was warm and dry but not bad – we averaged about 85 degrees during the entire ride.

Ride camp was located on John and Steph's 240 acre ranch, in a field just beyond their house. Other great amenities were a turnout pasture with grass (sign up sheet at the gate), hot showers in their barn which John set up himself, plenty of out houses, straw to bed your horses on, and lots and lots of water – even a bathing spot for the horses at the end of the ride trail! It was interesting to meet riders from other areas. We met folks from Texas, Missouri, Canada, Wyoming, Michigan, Oregon and (of course) Idaho. There were 5 of us Californians there.

The first day started at 7:30 am and headed out their driveway, onto the main road we had driven in on for a short distance, then we turned and headed through and past the neighbors property and out onto a single track which took us to a fantastically scenic trail along the top edge of some steep buttes for about 2 miles or so. The scenery was much like northern Nevada with lots of sage brush, rocky, gravel trails, and lots of darting lizards for company. We then headed back

onto some rocky jeep roads and on to the first vet check at mile 14. Lots of help from many cheery and smiling local volunteers was provided all throughout the ride. After this check, we headed up another rocky jeep road and passed an old cabin which was a stage stop in years past. We rode to 6200 feet past lots of juniper trees and a few fir trees at higher elevations. We could see the Snake river down in the low country below us edged with rich green fields of alfalfa. Then we headed back down the mountain to a vet check at mile 34 and then back to base camp. Dinners were touted to be "gourmet" and boy, were they!!! Pork loin for the first night....smoked beef brisket the second night, and shrimp kabobs the last night! We ate in John and Steph's back yard – a nice grassy area with country music tunes floating from their house. There was a photographer everyday, set up on the front porch with some great shots of everyone.

The 2nd day was 55 miles and was to be the most difficult. We rode out in a similar direction, then headed up a long gravel road for several miles before we turned onto a very jeep trail / single track combo. Here is where we encountered the millions of rocks that necessitated the padding of our horses! It was warmer and we were thankful for the many water stops provided along the trail in the form of troughs and streams. We followed some ribbons up a very steep short section of single track (horses really had to dig in!) and then up onto another long scenic trail that took us to 6500 feet where we were able to see Idaho, Nevada and Oregon, all from one spot! Then it was back down the some of the trails we had come up the day before.

Day 3 was the easiest. On the first loop, we headed out toward the highway we had driven in on, crossed over it at one point, and rode along fairly flat single track to the edge of the Snake River. The 2nd loop took us out next to a creek and around a distant mountain. At one point we rode inside an old and very deep irrigation ditch for about a mile or so. The final loop was a 10 mile trail back along the same top edge of the steep buttes we had ridden the first day – a great scenic trail to end the day and ride with!

John met us all just before the finish line on his ATV with a cooler full of many types of libations....depending on what mood you were in!

Overall, the trails were very well marked, technical at times, very scenic and sometimes historical – a grand mixture that contributed to a fun ride in the distant state of Idaho. John and Steph Teeter did a great job not only as ride managers, but as great hosts, making us very welcome and comfortable at their ranch. It was a long haul for us, but we will plan on doing their rides again and highly recommend anyone to make the trip – it was well worth it!

Bob and Peg Eaton

Marvin's Corner

El Vaquero (The Mexican Cowboy) and his Chihuahua, Chilito, are camping in the desert. He sets up their tent and both are soon asleep.

Some hours later, El Vaquero wakes his faithful friend. "Chilito, look up at the sky and tell me what you see." Chilito replies, "I see millions of stars, señor." What does that tell you?" asks El Vaquero. Chilito ponders for a minute. "Astronomically speaking, it tells me there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, it tells me that Saturn is in Leo. Chronologically, it appears to be approximately quarter past three. Theologically, it's evident the Lord is all-powerful, and we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, it seems we will have a beautiful day tomorrow.

What does it tell you, señor?" El Vaquero is silent for a moment, and then says, "Chilito, you pendejo. Someone has stolen our tent."

YIPPEE, I made all 5 days after all!
By Janice Frazier with a bit of editing by me ☺

We don't have this kind of ride in the Bay Area very often, it was a reasonable price, and as a long-time Bay Area Ridge Trail Council (BARTC) activist, I am thrilled that it raised close to \$10,000 for the BARTC after the Bay Area Barns and Trails

matched the ride's profit. From a personal perspective, I sure am glad I pulled off getting to do it. I thought I was only going to make 2 days, but I really needed the stress relief that riding brings.

There were many positives about the ride. I enjoyed meeting everyone, and the group was friendly and sharing. This was my horse's first multi-day camping trip. With the group aspect it could have been disastrous, so I was relieved that it was not a drunken, wild rowdy bunch. For my horse and I, the informal aspect of going at our own pace with small groups was ideal. The dinners were really good culinary experiences; you don't expect that when camping and that was a welcome addition.

I especially enjoyed the narrow trails that were so pretty, like Columbine in Chabot and the French Trail in Redwood. We don't have a lot of single track down in Santa Clara County anymore, and certainly not with that level of vegetation. I also enjoyed the great vistas on the ridge trails, particularly of San Francisco and the bay – really cool with the fog coming in – and of course to the east the great views clear to Mt. Diablo.

The colored route maps and written directions worked fine, though a few key point where no trail signs existed could have been better described in writing, such as where the Laurel Canyon Trail's only sign read "To Nature Area." Then again I don't really mind exploring either. I was pleased that my horse did OK (my crupper is already repaired – thanks for the shoe repair tip, Martha).

Thanks to everyone in the Tilden Wildcat Horsemen's Association (TWHA) that put on the 5-day ride, especially Eric, Martha, Judy and Morris for all their hard work. It was a great event. Having been Santa Clara County Horsemen's President, I know how hard putting on multi-day rides is, and to do a linear ride takes even more work and organization. You all really did a terrific job. I certainly hope to come next year.

OctobER 2003 QUICKSILVER QUIPS

2003 october Rides

Date	Region	Ride Name	Distance	Manager	Phone #
10/10	W	AERC Nat Champ	100	Carol Hoeft	775-969-3351
10/12	W	AERC Nat Champ	50	Carol Hoeft	775-969-3351
10/18	W	Quicksilver Fall	25/50	Jill Kilty-Newburn	650-949-0330
10/25	W	High Desert II	30/50	Heidi Siegel Vargo	775-575-2358
10/26	W	High Desert III	30/50	Zip Upham	775-423-3844

Early November Ride

11/01	W	Lake Oroville	30/50	Cathleen Pappa	530-534-9057
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october Quicksilver meeting

Wednesday, october 15 at 7:30 PM

Board meeting at 6:30 PM. Members are welcome to attend.

The meeting location is at the New Almaden Community Center on Bertram Road just behind La Foret. The main topics will be finalizing the organization for Calero Almaden Fall Ride on October 18, 2003 and nominations of officers for 2004. Be there so you can choose your job or office rather than have it assigned to you☺

Quicksilver Endurance Riders, Inc.

P. O. Box 71

New Almaden, CA 95042