



Quicksilver Quips

February 2007

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Deadline for submission of QUIPS material is the 25th of the month for 1st of month distribution. Exceptions made for late-breaking news and individual pre-arranged deadlines. Photos can be emailed or snail mailed. Word docs preferred for story material, but not a prerequisite.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IT'S FEBRUARY!!!!

Back at work and back at the ranch, with all the horses healthy and a prospect in the pasture waiting for his pre-purchase exam, 2007 has started off with goals to achieve and quite a bit of excitement. The expression "the future looks bright" definitely seems appropriate. Speaking of excitement, the recent QSER meeting was held at the Community Center and a couple of wonderful developments crystallized that you should make note of:

The ULTIMATE Horse Day (it could be): riding together as a Club from Calero Park on 2/10, starting at 11 a.m. - we're calling it "MONTHLY SPIRIT", read more about it in the meeting minutes. Following our ride together, is the Awards Dinner which begins at 6 p.m. at Harry's Hofbrau. You'll have time to enjoy a relaxing and enjoyable ride with enough time to clean up and put a smile on your face before devouring warm and delicious home style cooking sitting next to your fellow QSER members. . . and if you don't have time to clean up - come as you are!!! Maryben and the other committees have put in quite a bit of time to make sure we acknowledge all our member's accomplishments (assuming you got the information in on time). We will be acknowledging Hall of Fame Rider of the Year, Hall of Fame Horse of the Year, Mileage and Other accomplishments as well as unveil the winner of the famous Eleanor Norton Award. Be sure to be there!!!!

FALL QSER RIDE OCTOBER 6th at GRANT RANCH: Fall you say, but what happened to the Spring Ride??? Well folks with time running short we decided to move the QSER Spring ride to the Fall. We have a wonderful Rider Manager, Steve Lenheim, signed up to lead the charge with several Assistant's (our future RM's) volunteering to help out!! The meeting minutes have further details but we'll definitely need you to be brave enough to help out too, either by riding or volunteering your time (even if you can't make the event, there ARE things you can do to help out). With plenty of time before the fall, be sure to mark your calendars and offer assistance to those leading the way.

PLACES TO GO AND NEW PEOPLE TO SEE: For those of you who haven't heard, Chuck Kessinger is coming to the Almaden Valley. Having sold his big practice in Santa Cruz, he's finalizing plans to take delivery of a mobile unit headquartered close to where our club roots are. He's mentioned that he'll have digital x-ray capability, an exciting development for those whose horses are seen in the field. Currently connected with Peninsula Equine (where, as the story goes, he recently told an inquiring mind that

"oh, I'm just a vet assistant". . .), you can reach him there by leaving a message with your contact info. Anyway, I'm excited to have his talents back supporting the equine community and hear tell that he's even a good prospect himself for helping out as a vet with our Fall ride.

Well with the light growing dim and horses to feed it's time for me to close this personal message to you. I hope that you've enjoyed this day to its fullest, have a horse or two to share a warm moment with, and have a smile on your face when you go to bed tonight thinking about the great group of friends we have in our club!!!

My thoughts and prayers are with each of you - whom I HOPE TO SEE SOON at the Monthly Spirit riding event and/or the Awards banquet!!

'til then, all the best. . .

~Sandy

QUICKSILVER ENDURANCE RIDERS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

January 17, 2007

In attendance: Sandy Holder, Maryben Stover, Marvin Snowbarger, Margaret Graham, Kathy Brayton, Darran Ross, Kathy Schmidt, Bing Voight, Jennifer Voight, Trilby Peterson, Ildi Nasdasdy, Steve Lenheim

The minutes from the last meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Trilby presented the Treasurer's report.

General Account: \$6,433.26

Trails Account: \$1,016.56

Junior Account: \$782.02

Trilby initiated a discussion of discarding old banks records and proposed to keep records going back four years, a generally accepted accounting practice. Members debated the merits of keeping old records and keeping records four years past. Bing made a motion to accept Trilby's recommendation, Jennifer seconded the motion and it was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Trails: Judy Etheridge contacted Sandy Holder in connection with opportunities for QSER to support and have input into ongoing trail issues. The Open Space Authority (OSA) is considering improvements in the Alum Rock/Sierra Road staging area. A discussion of various trail concerns and opportunities ensued. Sandy made a motion to appoint Judy Etheridge the QSER representative to the OSA Trails Council and the East Bay Trails Council and to appoint Jennifer Voight the QSER representative to Santa Clara County Parks and the Mid Peninsula Open Space Authority. Both were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Awards Banquet: The QSER awards banquet is on Saturday, February 10 at Harry's Hofbrau House in Saratoga at 6pm. There is no General Meeting in February.

Steve Lenheim and Maryben Stover are in the process of finalizing awards and the calendar.

Spring Ride/Fall Ride: Discussion of a QSER spring ride continued from the last meeting. Doug Reynaud is unwilling to allow QSER to use his pasture as a staging area, so Henry Coe Park is not an option for the foreseeable future. The proposed date of the spring ride, May 12, conflicts with other club rides (SASO). Options for holding the spring ride in other parks ensued. A suggestion was made to consider holding the ride in the fall so as to avoid scheduling and logistical conflicts. Steve Lenheim volunteered to be ride manager for a Fall QSER ride at Grant Ranch County Park. Assistant ride managers also volunteered to help Steve: Darran Ross, Margaret Graham, Kathy Brayton, Bing Voight and Kathy Schmidt. A motion was made to abandon the spring QSER ride in favor of a fall QSER ride on October 6 at Grant Ranch and was approved by unanimous voice vote.

New Business: Marvin proposed that we include a list of all QSER meetings in the newsletter for planning purposes. A motion to adopt Marvin's proposal was approved by unanimous voice vote. A proposal was made by Sandy to have an informal monthly QSER ride locally for fun and socializing. She proposed that this be included in a new section of the newsletter called Monthly Spirit. In this section, opportunities for QSER members to meet or ride together will be listed. The following are the first events to be included in this section:

Rides: Feb 10 at Calero County Park at 11am

March 17 at Calero County Park at 11am

Jennifer volunteered to look into dates for a moonlight ride in April or May.

Social: Sandy Holder will be hosting a wine and cheese potluck on Friday evening, March 23rd at the Cuyama Oaks XP Ride.

MONTHLY SPIRIT

- 2/10 Club Ride at Calero County Park at 11am
- 3/17 Club Ride at Calero County Park at 11am
- 3/21 QSER meeting
- 3/23 Wine and Cheese Potluck hosted by Sandy Holder at Cuyama Oaks XP Ride.
- 4/18 QSER meeting
- 5/16 QSER meeting
- 6/20 QSER meeting
- 7/18 QSER meeting
- 8/15 QSER meeting
- 9/19 QSER meeting
- 10/17 QSER meeting

NOTE FROM RAINY TEXAS

Mike Maul

It's been difficult to ride here because the mud is so deep. The horses sink 6 inches into any grass-covered ground. I've been to the beach a number of times to ride since there it always drains very well ...:-)

We've had almost 6 inches of rain since the first of the year with periods of 14 days at a time. The normal rainfall is about 48-52 inches a year so we are about 2 inches over for the month.

Not too many rides this time of the year – the NM multi-days are *only* 950 miles from me each way.

But on a positive note – the beach is fun and it's long. We could do a 50 by going 25 miles and coming back to the start. Crew access would be great and you could always cool your horse off in the water. There was a ride back in the 80s here that did just that near Padre Island a number of miles south from Houston.

Rroc, Thor, and I are looking forward to the Spring rides.

I hope to see all of you at the convention in Reno.

– Mike

IN MEMORY OF RAZZMAN

March 2, 1990 to July 19, 2006

What makes a wonderful endurance horse memorable? For Razz it was his personality quirks and his willingness to trot mile after mile. At some point in his youth he must have been thoroughly frightened by something behind him. He would suddenly bolt forward for no apparent reason, at least not apparent to his human partners. He did this while tied to the trailer, on the trail or when being shod. He also had the habit of pushing against the bit or hackamore, always wanting to go faster, to catch the horse ahead and pass. Bob once told me he could tell it was Razz & I miles out from camp by the way Razz tossed his head.

In spite of his quirks, he completed 5825 miles of endurance rides, including two Tevis finishes, one the same year that he completed the 20 Mule Team 100 and Swanton Pacific 100. He also completed many multi-day rides. The longest being the 2001 XP ride from Missouri to Nevada where Razz was ridden 850 miles out of the 2,000 miles total. In 2004 he completed 600 miles of the 1200-mile XP ride going from California to Nebraska. On the 2004 ride he tied for first place several times and received three best conditions. During his early endurance career Razz was ridden by Julie and Bob Suhr, with Julie completing Tevis and Swanton Pacific in 2000. Their daughter Barbara White also competed on Razz. Nancy Twilight rode him to his first Tevis completion in 1999. Our daughter Christy says that Razz carried her through the 2000 20 Mule Team ride. They managed to get written up in *Sports Illustrated* for being the final competitors finishing all alone around 3:00 a.m. It was Christy's first and only 100-mile ride. Bob and I enjoyed many multi-day rides on Razz. Bob felt a special bond with Razz and Razz always knew that Bob was good for a soothing scratch around the ears. Razz carried us over hill and desert, through sleet, rain, snow and 100+ degree sunshine. He was one awesome horse and his memory will live long in our hearts.

– Bob and Pat Verheul

ONLY HORSE PEOPLE:

- Believe in the 11th Commandment: Inside leg to outside rein.
- Know that all topical medications come in either indelible blue or neon yellow.
- Think nothing of eating a sandwich after mucking out stables.
- Know why a thermometer has a yard of yarn attached to one end of it.
- Are banned from Laundromats.
- Fail to associate whips, chains and leather with sexual deviancy.
- Can magically lower their voices five octaves to bellow at a pawing horse.
- Have a language all their own ("If he pops his shoulder, I have to close that hand and keep pushing with my seat in case he sucks back".)
- Will end relationships over their hobby.
- Cluck to their cars to help them up hills.
- Insure their horses for more than their cars.
- Will give you 20 names and reasons for that bump on your horse.
- Know more about their horse's nutrition than their own.
- Have neatsfoot oil stains on the carpet right next to the TV.
- Have a vocabulary that can make a sailor blush.
- Have less wardrobe than their horse.
- Engage in a hobby that is more work than their day job.
- Know that mucking stalls is better than Zolofit any day.



Santa Clara County Horsemen's Association

20350 McKean Road, San Jose, CA 95120
(408) 927 6647

The Wild Oak Fundraiser hosted by
Santa Clara County Horsemen's Association
for our friends and neighbors at Wild Oak
Ranch. Nancy and Dave Littleton lost
their home, including their pets and all
of their possessions on New Years Day.
Nancy and Dave will be our guests and
recipients of this fundraiser. Events
will include a Spaghetti Dinner and
Dance and a raffle with prizes to be
donated. Fundraiser will be held at our
club house
Saturday February 17, 2007 at 6pm. For
more information and tickets call:

Sandle Quinones 408 927 6647
Jayna Burtis 408 972 9925
Pat McAndrews 408 268 0714

TEVIS TRAIL RIDING FOR ALL

I am currently reading Hal Hall's latest edition of The Western States Trail Guide, A comprehensive guide to the 100 miles of trail between Squaw Valley and Auburn, California. Printed in 2006, this guide gives the latest historical findings, as well as descriptions of recent changes in the routes for the Western States 100 Miles One Day Ride (The Tevis Cup Ride) and the Western States Endurance Run. Additionally, the guide gives practical information such as driving directions to trail heads, estimated riding time between locations, and maps.

I find the historical information to be very pleasurable reading. Many Quicksilver Club members have had the privilege and joy of completing the Ride, the Run, or both events. Event day, with its adrenaline rush, focused goal, and constant attention to physical and mental status of both horse and human, allows little time for historical or geological reflection as one traverses the amazing route. However, curling up with Hal's book on a winter's evening by the fire is a fine way of indulging oneself in learning more about this special trail.

Perhaps some of you have longed to see the trail but have, for whatever reason, been unable to enter the 100 Mile Ride. Perhaps you have wanted to travel portions of it on another day but have been a bit fearful of striking out on your own. Or maybe you have completed the Ride and/or Run but would like to go back and enjoy it at a slower pace, taking the time to marvel at the views, listen for the wildlife, and smell, well, not the roses, but there is plenty of other foliage growing out there.

An exciting new event is planned this year that might be of interest to many of you, the first Western States Two Day Educational Ride. At a slower pace and with experienced guides, this ride is open to anyone with a horse fit to travel 30-35 miles in one day, and it will cover the trail from Robinson Flat to Auburn. Riders will leave in groups from Robinson Flat and travel to Foresthill on the first day, June 30th. After camping out, they will depart the next day, July 1st, for Auburn. Current word has it that the river will be lowered that day for safe crossing. To add to the fun there will be a catered barbecue, various speakers, and other activities to make this weekend entertaining and memorable.

Full information and entry forms will be available at the AERC Convention and on the Tevis web site. The traditional Fun Ride will be held in May, and the big event, of course, will be on July 28th. Three different organized opportunities are offered for anyone who wishes to understand what the Tevis magic is all about. And, if you desire, you can pick up a copy of Hal's latest edition at the Convention as well. Proceeds benefit the Foundation.

– Barbara White

REINCARNATION

"What does Reincarnation mean?"
A cowpoke asked his friend.
His pal replied, "It happens when
Yer life has reached its end.
They comb yer hair, and warsh yer neck,
And clean yer fingernails,
And lay you in a padded box
Away from life's travails."

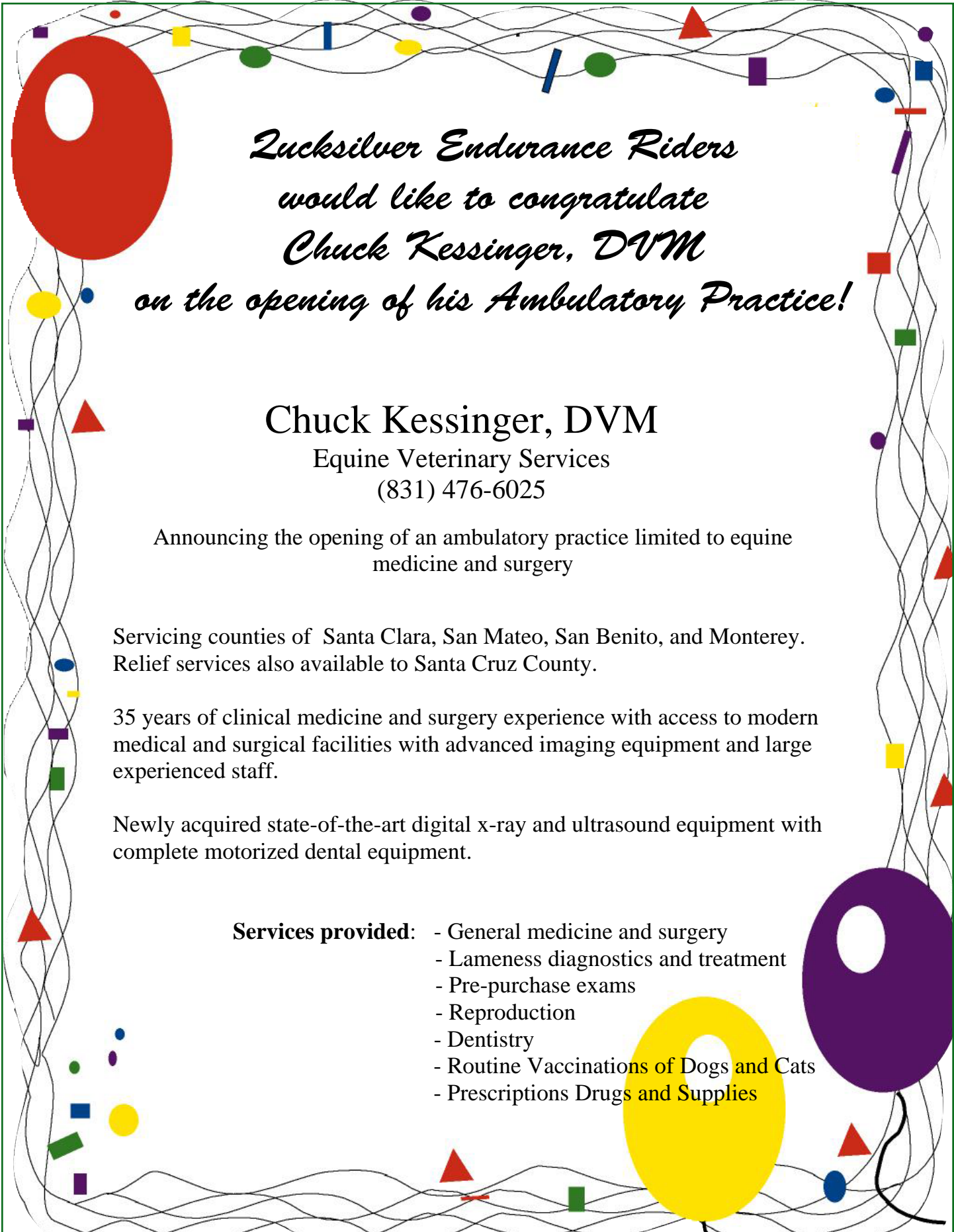
"The box and you goes in a hole,
That's been dug into the ground.
Reincarnation starts in when
Yore planted 'neath a mound.
Them clods melt down, just like yer box,
And you who is inside.
And then yore just beginnin' on
Yer transformation ride."

"In a while, the grass'll grow
Upon yer rendered mound.
Till some day on yer moldered grave
A lonely flower is found.
And say a hoss should wander by
And graze upon this flower
That once wuz you, but now's become
Yer vegetative bower."

"The posy that the hoss done ate
Up, with his other feed,
Makes bone, and fat, and muscle
Essential to the steed,
But some is left that he can't use
And so it passes through,
And finally lays upon the ground
This thing, that once wuz you."

"Then say, by chance, I wanders by
And sees this upon the ground,
And I ponders, and I wonders at,
This object that I found.
I thinks of reincarnation,
Of life and death, and such,
And come away concludin': 'Slim,
You ain't changed, all that much.'"

© Wallace McRae, reprinted from Cowboy Curmudgeon (1992)



*Zucksilver Endurance Riders
would like to congratulate
Chuck Kessinger, DVM
on the opening of his Ambulatory Practice!*

Chuck Kessinger, DVM

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Announcing the opening of an ambulatory practice limited to equine medicine and surgery

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35 years of clinical medicine and surgery experience with access to modern medical and surgical facilities with advanced imaging equipment and large experienced staff.

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HORSES AND WEEDS

The AERC recently funded research to answer the question, "Are horses responsible for introducing non-native plants along trails in the eastern United States?" This research was led by Dr. Stith T. Gower at the University of Wisconsin. In the final report of December 28, 2006, it is concluded that, based on their research, "these data suggest that horses are not an important source for the introduction of non-native plants."

Many of you are aware of EnviroHorse, Adda Quinn, and her passionate support for trails. Her work here in California has great potential to impact, and one would hope, benefit all trail riders. Below is a posting from her, with a request to contact her if you would like to know more or are able to support her work. Currently, horse trails are being lost at an alarming rate for many different reasons. Without scientific evidence, horses are frequently accused of transporting non-native plants and seeds into an area. Efforts to find the scientific truth of the matter are very important.

– Barbara White

As you know, I have been working on environmental issues pertaining to horses for some years now. Horses and weed spreading have been an issue for some time now. AERC recently funded research at the Univ of Wisc to do a study. You can view the results at: www.qser.net/07_AERC_Final_Rpt.pdf To my knowledge, this has not as yet been peer reviewed nor

published in peer-reviewed literature (which is vital), but hopefully it will be in 2007. The AERC findings are very important and should be the subject of newsletter articles for those of you with newsletters.

I am involved in the Dominican University study referenced in this attachment. Federal government agencies funded this work in excess of \$100,000. We are editing the field house findings now to submit to a peer review journal. The Dominican study had two phases. NO PLANT ON THE CALIFORNIA DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WEED LIST WAS FOUND IN EITHER PHASE. CDF is the regulatory body that certifies CWFF. However some of the phase 2 plants that grew are on the Cal IPC list in either moderate or limited categories.

Dominican also plans to submit to peer review a literature review which essentially concludes that while some weeds do grow in greenhouse (ideal) settings, few of these plants are found along trails. It calls for more studies at the landscape level, such as the one funded by AERC attached.

My thanks to those of you who have funded EnviroHorse (particularly to the Kvamme and Ebson Family Foundations, and individual members of the Mounted Patrol of San Mateo County) who enabled us to make the \$16,000 donation to Dominican that bought us a seat at the table to be able to extend the study to Phase 2 and to participate in the editing process of the Dominican work. We have had major impact on the development of both papers. Further research will be undertaken, likely at Dominican U where EnviroHorse has established a positive relationship with researchers.

If you are interested in the results of the Dominican studies, please send me an email so that I can send to you when they are available for distribution/publication. If you think horsemen should have a seat at the table in future research you must be willing to fund it as EnviroHorse is now out of money. Please send contributions made out to the Marin Horse Council to me Adda Quinn 3027 St. James Rd Belmont CA 94002. Marin Horse Council is 501c3 and deductible. This subject is not going to go away until there are numerous articles supporting the same conclusions in peer reviewed literature.

The AERC paper is a good way to begin the new year!

You can Contact Adda Quinn at envirohorse@yahoo.com

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FAMOUS HORSES..

PEGASUS whose rider, Bellerophon, tried to fly to heaven but was thrown and the horse lived on as a constellation of stars.

BUCEPHALUS, in 326 BC, was an unmanageable renegade horse when Alexander the Great, as a 12-year-old, tamed him and then rode him on his massive conquests. Legend says that Alexander loved this horse so much that he asked that he be buried by the horse's grave.

COMANCHE, a mustang, was the sole survivor of General George Custer's command at the Battle of Little Big Horn on June 26, 1876. The story goes that all the army soldiers killed their horses to use their bodies as shield against

the Indian attack. Comanche's owner loved his horse too much to kill him and fought the Indians from between the horses front legs. The Indians killed the man, but as a sign of respect for the man, they left his horse alive.

SEABISCUIT, at the peak of his fame in 1938, generated more newsprint in the United States than either Adolph Hitler or Franklin D. Roosevelt.

TRIGGER, Roy Rogers golden palomino that many of us watched and rooted for in the movies and on television. And more recently....

BARBARO captured the heart and the outpouring of sympathy of a nation that watched on television as his fragile legs failed him.

CLASSIFIED

HORSES FOR SALE

REGISTERED SHOW HORSE (½ SADDLEBRED, ½ ARAB). Brave Heart is 10 years old. Current on his shots. Very healthy (could use some exercise). BraveHeart won a few ribbons as a show horse in the Hunter/Pleasure category. We had him trained for 3 months at Coyote Ranch, and he's been doing very well on trails —goes thru water, doesn't spook, etc. His siblings have sold for over \$7k and some a lot more. His grandsire, Bask, is the all-time winningest Arab ever; his sire, The Chief Justice is also one of the winningest. \$3,500. Also 4-horse stock trailer for sale. Call Maryben for info. [03-07]

16-MONTH-OLD CHESTNUT FILLY FOR SALE. Sired by CF Sorcerer. Filly is half sister to 2005 AHA Distance Horse of Year Granite Chief +/. Smooth gaits and a looker. \$3500. Lisa Welch 831-674-3309 [03-07]

18-YEAR-OLD QUARTER HORSE NEEDS HOME. Sound, has been in pasture for the last year in Fresno. Has been a good trail horse and lesson horse in western pleasure. Also does well with city streets. Rita (909) 973-5779 [04-07].

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

MUST SELL. My loss is your gain. Since **SR ENDURO**, 14" seat, will fit someone w/ the following measurements hip circumference of 36-38" or less and a single thigh circumference of less than

22" or less, and a inseam of 28-30 (measurement from the centerline of the seat down to the flat step of the stirrup). Saddle also comes w/ sheepskin cover. Good condition. \$1300/firm. Contact Kim at kim@bodyworkforhorses.com or 408-687-3605. [03-07]

LOOKING FOR A TRAILER TO HAUL HAY? I have a boat trailer in very excellent condition with double axle that could carry a ton or two. \$750.00 (for a 20' boat). Steve 997-0368. [03-07]

SUPPLEMENTS/HOOF PROTECTION. Wild Eye Arabians is now supplying **FASTRACK** Probiotics (paste & powder) **HOOF -IT** Pour in Pads, Kentucky Equine Research products, **ENDURAMAX** Electrolytes (Paste & Powder) & **Neigh Lox** (Prevent Ulcers) Associated Feed products – **EQUUS** (complete feed) Auburn Labs – **APF** (Adaptogen). For more information contact **Wild Eye Arabians**, Kirsten or Michael Berntsen at 831 623-2120. kirstenzazz@hotmail.com or www.conklin.com/wildeyearabians. [03-07]

FOR RENT

STALLS/PADDOCKS/PASTURES FOR RENT. Brand new 12x12 stalls with 24x12 paddocks, shavings; we clean. \$250 pastures, \$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. [03-07]

RIDING LESSONS

WANT TO LEARN TO RIDE WITH LESS STRESS AND FATIGUE? Do you want your horse to move properly so that he can minimize wear and tear on his body for the long haul? Mary Fenton, Senior Centered Riding instructor, has lesson spaces on Thursday p.m. at "Lightfoot" Stables (McKean Road, San Jose). I've taken many lessons and several clinics from her, and feel that it's been real worth it. She coached Becky Hart to her Stockholm World Championship on Rio! You can contact Mary at (831) 761-2819. [03-07]

STALLION SERVICES

Introducing **CF SORCERER** - now standing at stud. Sire of TBR Granite Chief+/, 2005 AHA Distance Horse of the Year, 2004-2005AERC National Mileage Champion and 2004 XP Horse of the Year. Visit his website at <http://www.spanisharabian.net/> or contact Wizard Arabians, Jackie and Jim Floyd, P.O. Box 1045, Lodi, CA 95241, 209-334-1981, typef@comcast.net [03-07]

MISCELLANEOUS

TAX SERVICES. Need your taxes done? Call Trilby Pederson Tax Services - 408-997-7500. [04-07]

I'M LOOKING FOR A COMPANION HORSE for my 16 year old Arab gelding. Covered stall. ¾ acre turnout. Calero area. \$200/month. Call Niki Lamb 408-323-9953 or e-mail nlamb@cbnorcal.com [3-07]

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

FIRST: We need your name _____
And then your address _____
And your phone number, Fax, e-mail _____

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

Junior membership is \$ 15 _____

(a junior is under 16 years of age)

Total enclosed \$ _____

Why join the Quicksilver Endurance Riders? You will have the opportunity to participate in poker rides, moonlight rides, endurance rides, trail projects as well as attend monthly meetings, the Christmas party and the annual awards ceremony 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.

Send your 2006 dues, checks made out to: **Quicksilver Endurance Riders, Inc.**

Mail to Membership Chairperson:

Maryben Stover
1299 Sandra Drive
San Jose, CA 95125-3535
408 265-0839

May your and your horse(s) have a wonderful Year 2007 riding together as members of the Quicksilver Endurance Riders!!!



Quicksilver Endurance Riders, Inc.

P.O. Box 71
New Almaden, CA 95042