

Quicksilver Quips

August 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

July Quicksilver Meeting

I can only speak for myself but I believe July's wine tasting event at Hicks Creek Ranch hosted by the beautiful and talented Heather Reynolds was quite enjoyable. Fearing the keys to the Tamber Bey cellar were 'well hidden' (Barry was off riding and Carol was only smiling), I brought a dozen bottles of other stuff, that along with bottles from a few other members' stashes provided a really nice mixture of vintages and flavors. Believe it or not, we ended the night <gasp> with a few left over!!

It was the first time in awhile for me to relax (pain free), see everyone excited about the 'goings on' and to learn a few things about the Art of Massage from Wendy McDonald. Our beautiful demonstration model "Stella." For those of you who were not able to attend, this picture shows another horse, similarly painted to reflect the muscle groups that are so important when massaging our equine companions. Wendy did an excellent job of answering questions from the general group before providing detailed insight to specific people. One thing I wasn't quite able to check out were the books and articles that she'd thoughtfully brought with her (yes, I was too busy talking – imagine that!)

Our chef Steve Lenheim cooked the burgers to our specification and the food was fabulous . . . needless to say between the wine and the buffet of delights, I totally blew my diet!!!

Hope this finds all of you well and enjoying your summer. Margaret Graham's ribs are healing faster than my broken shoulder and repaired rotator cuff but I think I'm ahead of Judith in terms of timing to get back on a horse. We all three shared our goals for WHEN we'll be back in the saddle so in the meantime, for those of you capable, enjoy your riding time for us and know how envious at least I am of you!!!



Next up: the August 15th meeting, 6:30 p.m. start time at Ildi's home (21420 Fortini Road, San Jose, 95120) and the September 19th meeting, 6:30 p.m. start time at our home (Wind Rider's Ranch, 2471 Bridle Path Drive, Gilroy, 95020).

Smiles to all and Best Regards,
Sandy

AUGUST 15 MEETING POTLUCK

At Ildi's House!
21420 Fortini Rd San Jose CA 95120
6:30 p.m.
Junior Raffle - \$3.00/ticket

FIREWORKS

The Fireworks Ride was a repeat of almost all the other rides they have put on. I probably have done 10-12 of them over the last 15 years and feel that they are like an old friend. I know what to expect and where the trail goes. What seems to change is the weather, this year was on the cool side for them and the results probably were better than years past. The trail was hard packed (like cement) and in some places rutted (from the bicycles). A rider in front of me had her horse slip and go down on a curve, just lost its footing from the angle of the trail and the hardness. A couple of horses had a problem crossing the little water creek at the start and from what I heard a bunch of horses had a BIG problem at the river crossing which is normal for this ride. The water was down compared to years past but still 2-3 feet deep and since the water wasn't flowing well got muddy and the path through the rocks was hard to see. I saw one photo of a horse rearing up like the Lone Ranger and can say there were a few wet riders. Happens every year.

The afternoon saw the cool fog sitting on the ocean and a nice breeze drifting in. When I left the lunch break I noticed that the fog was also starting to come in and that, more the anything, made the normally hot afternoon quite pleasant, in the mid-70's. Everyone seemed to be having fun as I spent most of the day just doing a lazy ride and letting people pass. Up one hill then down. When I got to the last vet check there were no horses waiting for a ride out and everyone coming in was passing the vet check with good scores. When I finished I did hear of 2-3 horses being treated from Chuck Kessinger (ride vet) but he felt they would be ok. Other than that I have another T-shirt.

For club members riding I saw Heather (1st place), Jeremy, Julie, Jeff, Hillary, Mary, Judy, Dennis & Judy, Scott and probably a few others riding. Working was Pat (Manager) & Robert, Michele (head vet) Barbara & Doug, Bob (crewing), Maryben, Vivian, Becky, Steve, Alexandra and a host of others. Hanging out I noticed Connell, Pam and Debbie plus one or two others. Not a bad turnout for QSER.

– Steve Lenheim

TRIVIA QUESTION

A horse walked all day. Two of its legs traveled 21 miles and two legs traveled 20 miles. How come?

ANSWER: The horse worked in a mill. It walked in a circle all day to drive the millstone. In the course of the day, its outer legs walked a mile farther than its inner legs.

OSA/CALERO RIDE

Hello club members,

For the last 2 months I have been laying out a trail at the OSA/Calero parks. I have approval from the rangers and have put in the paperwork for sanctioning a ride there for September 20, 2008. I know it is a ways off but the trails are new and they need to settle. I hope you all mark your calendars and can come join us at this new park.

– Heather Reynolds

NEW OSA TRAILS

I spoke with Pat Congdon, GM of the Open Space Authority on July 19th. We have EXCITING NEWS!!! Not only is he open to allowing us to using trails, he even has "one in mind" to create our uniquely QSER "branded" trail for us to use for our annual Classic!! WOW!~

Things to think about:

RM for next year's Spring and/or Fall Classic - I believe he mentioned this trail would be excellent for a Fall ride next year

He's willing to come as a guest speaker to talk about the OSA, Habitat Plans for County, and Potentially Significant Trails being opened up in the future at our August 15th meeting at Ildi's (need to check with her to see if she already has a guest speaker)

Members ATTENDING the NEXT MEETING - how often do you have the opportunity to have an impact on getting more trails open?!!

I also recall AERC's trails building programs and need to have some help researching the 'what, who, how, etc.' I'll reach out to Judy and Jennifer for help. Pat mentioned that if there is training and it's not "AERC members only" then he has two of his staff (equestrians) that it might be beneficial for us to sponsor for this trails class.

As always, would love to hear your thoughts!

– Thanks, Sandy

JULY TREASURER'S REPORT

General Account	\$4092.77
Junior Account	\$ 410.89
Trails Account	\$1017.06

MONTHLY SPIRIT

8/15 QSER meeting - Junior sponsored meeting at Ildi's - 6:30 p.m.

9/19 QSER meeting

10/2 QSER Fall Classic at Grant Ranch

10/17 QSER meeting



QUICKSILVER FALL CLASSIC GRANT RANCH

**Sponsored by
QUICKSILVER ENDURANCE RIDERS**

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 6, 2007
50 Miler and 25 Miler**

CAMP INFORMATION: Camp is at Grant Ranch, a Park belonging to the Santa Clara County located near Mt. Hamilton. It has overnight facilities with water and a large camp area. **No open fires, no atv's, dogs on a leash ONLY, no wood gathering, quiet hr 10:00pm on, etc, etc.**

COURSE: The course is well known to those who have ridden there in the past. Two loops of 25 miles each on the jeep trails circling the rolling hills. A map will be provided and marking will be put out. We will provide water, carrots and other treats for the horse. Lunch and a lite (hamburgers) dinner for the riders. This is a non-technical ride that is of average difficulty if the weather is not hot. There are some great views of the Santa Clara Valley and from time to time wild animals to observe.

PRE-RIDE VETTING: Friday at about **4:00pm**

PRE-RIDE MEETING: Friday at **7:00pm.**

RIDE START: **50 MILES AT 6:30AM SATURDAY (12 HRS)**

25 MILES AT 7:00AM (6 HRS)

FUN RIDE AT 9:00AM

FRIDAY EVENING SOCIAL WITH WINE, CHEESE ETC.

POST RIDE EXAM: 25 mile will be first horse to meet criteria per AERC.
50 mile as per AERC for 1st place, Best Condition, etc.
QSER members will compete for club awards

AWARDS : 3:00PM FOR THE 25 MILERS AND 6:30 FOR 50 MILERS

RIDE RULES: As per AERC rules and regulations. Juniors must be accompanied by an adult and wear a helmet. Santa Clara Park Rules must be observed, such as no smoking on the trail. Manager may add other rules to observe at the ride meeting on Friday. Ride manager will settle any disputes and interpret AERC rules by vote of three dogs and two horses, i.e. 3 out of 5 barks or neighs.

FOOD: We will feed lunch to anyone hungry at no extra charge (DONATIONS OK). Chips and a sandwich or? **DINNER** will be hamburgers and a salad or whatever COSTCO has that's looks interesting or not. Yes, veggie burgers will be available (three pickles and mustard on 7 grain tortilla). Weight watchers will be provided a chair and a bottle of water.

DIRECTIONS: HEAD FOR SAN JOSE, OFF 680 FREEWAY NORTH OR SOUTH TAKE ALUM ROCK AVE. EXIT AND GO EAST ABOUT 6 MIN. UP TO THE MT. HAMILTON (130) TURN-OFF (RIGHT). PROCEED TO GRANT RANCH ABOUT 25 MIN. ON A WINDY ROAD. **ALLOW TIME TO GET THERE BEFORE SUNSET (7:00PM)**

RIDE MANAGER: STEVE LENHEIM, 1126 BARNES LN., SAN JOSE, CA. 95120 (408) 997-0368

RIDE SECRETARY: KATHY BRAYTON, 2147 HARMIL WAY, SAN JOSE, CA., 95125 (408) 269-1822

RIDE HEAD VET: MATT RANDALL, 2ND VET. CHUCK KESSINGER

ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL ME, STEVE LENHEIM, WORK # 408) 377-0611

QSER FALL CLASSIC ENTRY FORM

OCTOBER 6, 2007 / GRANT RANCH

MAIL TO:
STEVE LENHEIM
1126 BARNES LN
SAN JOSE, CA 95120

Rider Name: _____ AERC # _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Email: _____

Horse Name: _____ Horse Owner _____

Horse AERC#: _____ Age: _____ Sex: _____ Breed: _____ Color: _____

Division: _____ FW (0 – 160 lbs w/tack) _____ LW (161 - 185 lbs/tack)

_____ MW (186 – 210 lbs w/tack) _____ JR _____ HW (211 lbs + w/tack)

Entry Fees:	25 miler.....	\$80.00	_____
	50 Milers.....	\$100.00	_____
	Fun Ride.....	.\$25.00	_____
	Non AERC fee applies to both rides\$15.00	_____
	JR's and Rider Managers discount.....	.\$20.00	_____

** (PARK CHARGES A CAMPING FEE)

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$_____

PLEASE READ AND SIGN LIABILITY RELEASE

I wish to participate in the QSER FALL CLASSIC ride sponsored by the Quicksilver Endurance Riders. I am aware that an endurance competition course covers difficult terrain on trails where the footing for the horses may be unsure, and will include road crossings and hazards. I further acknowledge that competitive events such as this, over considerable distance contains inherent risks of injury and damage to me personally, to my animal(s) and equipment. Knowing these facts, nevertheless, in consideration of your accepting this entry, I do hereby for myself, heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release the Quicksilver Endurance Riders, all property owners over whose land the ride passes, the county where this ride takes place, or their representatives, heirs, executors, administrators, and assign from any and all right claim of liability for damages, or for any and all injuries that may be sustained by me or from any and all claims of any kind or nature that I might have. I do acknowledge that I have read the foregoing paragraph and know and understand the contents thereof. Yes, I am smarter than a 5th grader.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Minors must have the following liability signed by one of their parents/guardians if under the age of 18.

Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

CALERO OPEN SPACE TRAILS

As we continue to move forward with our semi-annual QSER Club Classic, we're challenged to find interesting and unique locations to hold our rides. We accepted Barbara & Lud McCrary's gracious offer to access their historical area last year when we held The Return to Castle Rock ride. The challenges, including the clearing and marking of trails, much of which had to be done by them or their family members familiar with the trails, as you might expect, exhausted their enthusiasm for a return ride this year. As we continue to seek fun and exciting locations, those that will not compete with other local rides (SASO, Diablos Pistoros, etc), we're challenged with finding opportune sites that will not only accommodate a large potential of riders but allow for a meaningful experience at the ride (unlike some east coast rides that have to do the same loops 2 or 3 times, we like to provide 'fresh' trail experiences at our rides).

Given the increasing competition for trails not only by bicycles, hikers and 'preservers of open space' which don't allow for our type rides, I'd like to recommend opening a dialog with the Open Space Authority to challenge them, in a polite way, to allow us to run a ride at Calero and utilize some of their newer Open Space trails. It's my understanding that currently they've declined, for various reasons, to allow us to hold a ride there. Although it's hearsay, I believe that NATR or CTR held a ride last year/earlier this year that may have included some of their trails. I've left a message for Doug Congdon, OSA General Manager, to obtain information. If I'm wrong about this, my apologies, but in either case, I'd like us to reach out to them to seek direct dialog about the potential issue and try to develop, if possible, a plan to create the foundation for an annual QSER ride there. In advance of opening the dialog, I thought I'd send you the proposed email and format to enlist the help of the District Director. Given that we have QSER Board appointed Chairs for the Trails (Jennifer for West Bay and Judy Etheridge for East Bay), we have the 'willing volunteers' already to pursue this but I wanted to seek your collective input prior to getting the ball rolling. If you have some thoughts, we'd appreciate them prior to Sunday night, July 22nd. Please, if at all possible, print this and quickly pass it along to those not online.

The proposed email to the District 1 (Calero area) Open Space Authority Director Alex Kennett from me, pulling from content on their website and ours is as follows:

*Dear Honorable Alex Kennett,
As the District 1 Director for the Open Space Authority, we appreciate the challenges, skills and vision you utilize to help develop and implement land management policies that provide proper care of open space lands, allowing public access appropriate to the nature of the land for recreation, which are consistent with ecological values and compatible with agricultural uses.*

As the President of a nonprofit organization actively involved in community affairs involving horse trails, both to protect old trails and to open new ones, I wanted to reach out to you to open a dialog of how we can work

together to benefit our community.

Frequently we have speakers from outside the club, including veterinarians, endurance riders, politicians and others who provide useful and interesting information. We have been fortunate to have had an exceptionally talented and dedicated Board of Directors and Officers whose tireless efforts combined with those of our indispensable general membership, have produced a club who's accomplishments are many and whose reputation in all endeavors is the highest.

We would like to understand more regarding your goals and objectives for District 1 with the thought of providing assistance from our club in helping you achieve your goals.

Please contact me at your earliest convenience to discuss your thoughts and an appropriate time and/or venue to share ideas and develop a methodology of working together harmoniously. I've copied our West Bay Area Trails Chair, Jennifer Voight, to include in our communications.

In advance of our connecting, I want you to know that we appreciate the time you will spend to help us understand how to develop a mutually beneficial working relationship. We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

FYI - I put in the 'achieving your goals' piece to align with ideas around trail sponsorship, contributions to trail maintenance, etc. as well as potential \$'s - something to get the ball rolling; however, to me, money is the least likely scenario unless our membership feels strongly about this. Obviously anything definitive would have to be presented to the membership and/or board and voted on.

Your thoughts?

Thanks, Sandy



Z-TECH EVENT

Hi Gang,

I don't know how many of you are aware of the Z-Tec (Zone Team Endurance Challenge) going on at Ft Howes on September 22 this year. It is a 100 mile race, designed for team competition. It is the first race supportively funded by USEF, and we are hoping to make it a great success. The good news is that a person may, but does not have to, ride FEI to compete in the event.

Please visit the website if you are interested; <http://www.zonechallenge.net/> and please let me know if you are organizing a team to compete, as we are trying to get a handle on how many to expect.

Thank you!

- Michele Roush

A FULL DAY'S JOURNEY

Yuba-Sutter riders take on 100-mile Tevis Cup

July 26, 2007

Gloria Vanderford hopes to reign in a milestone Saturday. Her great-granddaughter looks to perhaps start her own trek to fame.

Vanderford, 69, of Loma Rica, is competing in her 10th Tevis Cup, a 100-mile, one-day horse ride from Lake Tahoe to Auburn. Haily Daeumler, 13, of Yuba City, is competing in her first Cup, although she is no stranger to century rides.

As many as 250 riders from all around the world will compete. Those who complete the ride within 24 hours earn a silver belt buckle commemorating their accomplishment.

Vanderford will get a special buckle if she completes the journey, becoming only the 65th rider to have earned a 1,000-mile buckle in the 52 years of the Tevis Cup. Six riders have completed the cup 20 times.

Vanderford said she has logged more than 8,000 miles in a saddle, and still holds to the creed, "To finish is to win."

Vanderford is attracted to the Tevis Cup on several levels.

"You can't imagine how gorgeous it is," she said.

The ride begins at 5:15 a.m. at Robie Park outside Truckee at an elevation of 7,200 feet. Over the course of the next 100 miles, competitors will climb as high as 8,750 feet to Emigrant Pass and as low as 700 feet at No Hands Bridge, before finishing at 1,200 feet in Auburn.

"It's challenging for both rider and horse," Vanderford said.

Not only is there a lot of changes in elevation, but the terrain and trails also pose problems.

"There is an area here there are granite boulders that ranges from two feet to eight feet," Vanderford said, and horses have to negotiate up and over or around the obstacles.

"There also are trails that are only two feet wide and some that are about one foot wide," she continued. "If you have a good, sound horse, it's not really a problem."

The horse's condition is a serious issue. There are several checkpoints along the trail where riders must stop and a veterinarian checks over the horse. Among other things, the horse's pulse rate can't be more than 60 beats per minute.

There also are two mandatory 1-hour breaks where riders and horses must stop and rest.

Because the ride can last for 24 hours, competitors must do some of their riding in darkness, as the moonlight is obscured by canyon walls and tall trees.

"Horses actually see better at night than they do during the day," Vanderford said.

"You really have to trust your horse," Daeumler said, adding she and her horse, Haily's Ember, bonded close after they competed together during a Virginia City century ride.

For the most part, riders are in the saddle the entire time, although Vanderford said some get off and lead their horse, especially across the suspension bridge.

"That can get a little scary," Vanderford said, especially when a rider gets anxious and more than one horse and rider are on the swinging bridge at the same time. "It gets real herky jerky."

Daeumler, meanwhile, has competed in two 100-mile rides near Virginia City.

"The horses, the trails," Vanderford replied, when asked what she likes best about endurance riding and what keeps her coming back for more.

Daeumler enjoys it, but she's not sure she will ever earn a 1,000-mile buckle.

"I want to but ...," she said, "... a lot of my friends are older now, and they are not into riding anymore like I am."

She said riding for 24 hours can take its toll on the rider.

"I've fallen asleep on the trail before," Daeumler admitted. "My first ride, it was really hot and it wore me out. My horse took good care of me, though."

The object is to finish within 24 hours.

Her first year at the Tevis Cup in 1987, Vanderford finished the ride with about 15 minutes to spare. Her best time is about 20 hours.

As an added bonus, Daeumler will help with the awards ceremony. She will present a carnation to each finisher who receives the coveted belt buckle, and hopefully her great-grandmother will be among the recipients.

Addendum: Gloria and Haily finished at 4:22 a.m. in 60th and 61st places, respectively.



Haily and Ember with Gloria and Hugh

WANTED!! MORE TEVIS STORIES!

If you have a Tevis story, please share it with the rest of the club. Newsletter submission deadline is August 25th for the September issue.

TEVIS 2007- A CREW'S PERSPECTIVE

By Nick Warhol

(who isn't a member ... yet)

What a show, what an event, what a lot of work! I attended the Tevis again this year, as I intended to, but due to circumstances beyond my control, namely my knee surgery in April, I was unable to ride. I really wanted to ride the crazy thing again, as I intend to every year, but I couldn't. Patience, Patience, Patience! This is a word that does not share residence with other words in my brain very well. What's a rider to do when they can't ride? Crew, of course! The day my wife Judy heard I was going to have surgery, she comforted me as a wife will- "Oh no, that's no good. I'm so sorry. I'll help you with your recovery. It will be okay- you will be better soon." She gave me a nice hug. Thanks, sweetie. She then snuck outside, looked around to be sure I could not see her, pumped her fist up and down and said "YES!", as if her Giants had just won the World Series. My outage meant only one thing- she would get to ride my Dawn on the big ride this year. He's come quite a way in his first three years. (It's amazing I have had him three years now. Where is this time going?) He has started 30 rides and completed 30 rides, including Tevis as his first 100 last year, which he pulled me through with ease. I didn't want him to miss a chance to do the ride due to my injury, so Judy got the nod! My riding buddy Sally helped me beyond belief during my post surgery recovery by coming over twice a week and riding my boy to keep him going for me. Her prize? She rode him on the three days of the Wild West ride, where she had an absolutely wonderful time. She was just having fun and enjoying herself, but ended up in second overall for the three days combined. She decided then and there she was going to steal him, but is still working on her plan so I won't notice. Perhaps spray paint Warpaint white and add on some flea-bitten specks and a pair of cute ears?



She's crafty!

Judy has started Tevis three times and finished twice, all on Warpaint the crazy Appy, but she has not ridden the big one since 1998. She has done 450 miles so far this year to help get ready, including 50 at the Mariposa ride last month on Dawn to get to know him. My crewing duties started the week before Tevis when I simply stuffed everything horse related we own into the truck

and trailer, leaving only enough room for the actual horse. We had contrived a master plan on how to get Judy through the ride, since she always gets sick while riding at night. Sally and I would be responsible for anything horse related, while our friend Karen Bottiani (6 Tevis completions in 7 starts on her horse Blues!) would take complete control and care of Judy, especially relating to making her eat and drink. Karen was the mother hen all weekend, forcing Judy to just keep consuming calories and fluids. We drove up on Thursday afternoon as usual and parked out in the gravel overflow parking lot. The ride was kind of small this year, but I think people are figuring out the gravel is the hot place to park. Oh, oops, it's terrible! Never park there! Stay away! Poison Gas! My horse was all alone for the first day and night out there; he does like company, and we were a little concerned about how he would be all by himself. No worries- he was just fine. He was calm in his pen, eating and drinking, but would call out and say hello to any horse that might pass by. On Friday morning more people started showing up, pretty much filling up the gravel area. Mister D was happy to have some neighbors to talk to as well. We took him down to vet in; Judy was still nice and relaxed as I took him through the vet line and got him his number. She weighed in at 160 pounds with my saddle and all her stuff- that's 40 pounds lighter than my riding weight, certainly a good thing for the boy once the ride started.

Speaking of my saddle, Judy did not really like the way my 2 inch biothane stirrup leathers felt at Mariposa, so I switched over to her traditional 1 inch leathers. I had to disassemble the saddle to rig them up, but she liked the way they felt much better, so that's how we left it. I was pondering one of the most important lessons I have ever learned in this sport- never do a ride, especially Tevis, with something new and untried. As I thought about it, I realized that her leathers were about 13 years old, so I suggested getting new ones. "Nah," she said, "They should be fine." None the less, while shopping at Janet's place in the main camp, I bought a pair of new Zilco leathers as a backup. We were chatting about it over a beer in the shade, and Karen said that it's usually the stitching that gives out, rather than the leather itself ripping. She suggested we check them out, just to be safe. Judy agreed, and went over and tugged on the leathers where they were sewed together. Rip!! They came apart with as much effort as it would take to separate Velcro. Judy's eyes got real big; I felt so vindicated, especially as a crew! She took the other one- it ripped even easier than the first. I leaped in, took the saddle apart, and installed the fresh Zilco's. She went for her warm up ride and reported they felt fine- we dodged a bullet there. Rule to self, AGAIN, even after last year where I did the same stupid thing, never use anything new or different at this ride! I won't, ever again. (Except a water bottle, which we replaced)

While she was out riding, Sally and I prepared the crew bags for Robinson Flat, the wild and crazy vet check at 35 miles where the crew can see the rider for the first time. **Crew Goal 1: Bring everything.** We seemed to be bringing enough stuff to support the fifth Calvary on maneuvers, but that's what it takes to be secure in the knowledge that we did not forget anything. I would almost be able to replace the p-trap in the kitchen sink that she may be carrying along in her cantele bag. I also spoil the horse- I was bringing eight, very large, ziplock bags full of different grains and goodies I can mix and match at the vet check, so he can really select what he wants to eat, and enough carrots to make a large herd of bunnies jump for joy. We finished up the prep and had some time to kill while she was out riding, so we had Gary Fend's brother, Rick, take us out down the road to the start where we could go look at that stupid little ditch that caused so much grief

just after the start last year. Look here- some nice ride management person has had it filled up with gravel. That's a relief. Later on after dinner we wandered over to the ride meeting that takes just a little too long, and then set up for the night. The morning gets a little hectic around here.

The alarm goes off at 3:30am, so I got up and gave the horse his morning mash, complete with warm water from the camper. We got the horse all tacked up and ready to go while Karen made sure Judy had breakfast. The horse is so nice and calm. **Crew Goal 2: Get her walking out of camp to the start at 4:30.** At 4:30 I walked down the main road with her to the start in her designated Pen 3; it takes about 7 minutes to get there from the parking area we were in. She was the first horse to the pen, so I walked with her for a moment until the other horses started to show up. Mister D is walking, standing, so nice and calm. I said good bye, and told her to ride safe, ride smart, and have fun. I also told Dawn to take care of her. It's funny- I was never worried about them, because I know she can do it, I know he can do it, but I still felt a little pang of emotion. I walked back to the truck in the moonlight, feeling a little odd about not being on the horse, but that's okay, she will have a good ride. All these horses heading over to the start, and me heading the other way on foot. Its okay, she will have a good ride. I listen to all the people talking; they are so excited, it sounds so cool. Its okay, she will have a good ride. I'll just keep chanting that to myself all day long. We had the camp all packed and ready to go at 5am, and could not pull out until 5:30, so we just stood in the moonlight in the cool air, hoping the ride was going all right so far. It was so funny- the rules strictly say no vehicles on the road until 5:30, (a great rule, for the benefit of the riders) so it ends up looking like the starting grid at the Indy 500. Everyone has their trucks staged and ready to blast off, and once the first one leaves, everyone dashes out in a pack to get down the dusty roads that lead to Truckee, then the freeway. The dust was pretty bad, but only for about 7 miles or so. **Crew Goal 3: Get the rig to Foresthill without incident.** Through the dust we went, then through town and onto the freeway heading west. Boy, some of these crews are not trying to follow this rule! These guys are pulling these big trailers at speeds of over 75 MPH! In the mountains, on highway 80, no less. I'm going 60 with bursts to 65 and am getting blown away. The mighty Pony Tug cruised effortlessly through the Sierra with nary a shudder. I remember in 94 when I made the turn off the freeway in Auburn in my old truck and had the power steering pump blow up. Not good for crews. Karen followed us in her truck to the Bath Road site in Foresthill; we pulled into the giant parking area, where we found excellent parking control. We found a nice spot to leave the rig, so we loaded up Karen's truck and headed back up the small road that leads to Robinson Flat, about 15 miles away. **Crew Goal 4: Get set up in Robinson before the rider gets there!** No problem. Even with the 5:30 truck start, we were able to drop the rig, load up, drive up to Robinson, and get set up and ready by 9. However, if you were crewing for a fast rider in the lead, you would need a different strategy, or more vehicles, or both. The ride does a great job of leading the crew's vehicles down into the vet check to unload and drop off the flotilla of equipment that everyone is carrying. Heck, I thought I had a lot of stuff? There are people with entire pickup truck beds full of crew equipment. Two spare saddles? Full size wheelbarrows? Wow! We had a nice spot picked out in the shade in the forest: the tarp went down, chairs out, horse buffet ready, water, rider food, everything perfect. Judy's goal was to arrive at Robinson between 10:30 and 11. It's now 9:15 and we get into huddle formation to create our plan. We are going to meet the horse, walk him to the water, let him drink, pull the saddle, splash

him down, Sally takes the tack back to the crew area, I go with Judy to the P&R and vet, we get through and back to the area, Karen goes to work on Judy, Sally and me the horse. Sounds so easy! We walked up the trail entrance and began our wait. The leaders hit camp at 9:25 or so, moving right along, but slower than last year. We begin waiting and wondering when she will arrive. For those not so familiar with endurance riding, the word crew is spelled w-a-i-t. In my case I guess it is w-a-i-t and w-o-r-r-y. Probably everyone else's, too. **Crew Goal 4.1: Try like heck not to be nervous.**

Oh, the waiting is hard. I know so many of the riders that pass by with their superb mounts; we say hi, the horse looks great, etc, etc, but what we are really saying is "Where is Judy?" A friend says she's right behind me. Boy, that's good to hear. Sure enough, she pops into view, right at 10:45, and is skipping along



next to the horse. She's all smiles and feeling great, as is Dawn. Time for our crack crewing plan to go into action! I lead my horse down the road to the in-timers, Judy gets clocked in, and then we walk to the water, let him drink, pull the saddle, splash him down, Sally takes the tack back to the crew area, I go with Judy to the P&R and vet, we get through and back to the area, Karen goes to work on Judy, Sally and me the horse. Did that sound familiar? It's exactly what we did. Yay! Perfection in action so far. The horse looked wonderful for the vets. Judy is eating, as is Dawn. For you connoisseurs of mash, it turns out his favorite choice is a nice blend of Strategy, Ultium, crimped oats, some wheat bran, (no beet pulp) and water, with of course carrots. Lots of carrots. He'd eat them in his sleep, upside down, and under water. What kind of damage would he do in the Bunny Love factory? We limit him to one mash, then it's to the hay: grass, alfalfa, and oat, of which he eats in a round robin manner. **Crew Goal 5: Get her out on time!** This worked too, but not without a hiccup. They have an exit CRI that was not carried out real well. They wanted you to arrive at the exit CRI "A few minutes" before your exit time. What does that mean? Apparently the pulse takers did not know, since they were doing people at all kinds of different time. Some people waited, some not, there was sort of a line, but not quite. I just sort of said "please do him now" and got his CRI. We timed it so she had to wait for about a minute before her out time, and as the clock flipped, off she went, right on time. Whew! The whole atmosphere for us becomes completely relaxed as she rides out. We walked back through the carnage to our crew spot, packed up, and walked back down the hill to the truck. We had our lunch

of chicken pops and egg salad as we drove back down the hill to Foresthill, where we will have to wait for about six hours to see her again.

We stopped for ice and some supplies, set up the camp back at the truck for her arrival, got all ready, and now, well, we wait for five hours. Ugh. **Crew Goal 6: Try not to be too bored.** We walked around camp a little, had more snacks, sat in the shade, talked to some friends, then went back to the truck. Now only four hours left to wait. I went into the camper to try and take a little nap- it will be a long day, and the air was still pretty cool outside. While I was asleep, Sally came into the camper, well she tried to, but fell off the high door step, right onto the tongue of the trailer. She hit hard, right on her ribs, and really hurt herself. I was convinced she had broken some ribs, since she could barely move or breathe without extreme pain. She said no to going to the hospital for a while to see how it felt, since she did not want to ruin the day for anyone. She sat for a couple of hours, then we walked down to the paved road that leads the riders into Foresthill to wait for Judy. It's a lot of fun- you get to see everyone, and everyone cheers for all the riders as they approach the check. Judy's goal was to arrive between 7 and 8; she arrived at about 7:25 or so. She wasn't quite as chipper looking as she was at Robinson, but oh man, Dawn was! She climbed down and gave the horse to me- he dragged me up the road like a little grey steam train. We left Judy in the dust as we walked to the water, where we stripped his tack and hosed him down. The horse looked totally fresh- he's pretty amazing. Up to the main crew area, where his pulse was already way down, same as last year. We let him eat a bit while Judy walked over, looking kind of tired, but still okay. She had started getting nauseous already, at Michigan Bluff, about an hour earlier. Not a good sign at this early point, since she usually does not start to get queasy until later at night. We went to the vet- I trotted the boy for Judy, and wow is all I can say. CRI? 52/44. The vet looked at him funny; I just smiled and hugged him.

Back to the truck where we started our crack crewing again. All was going well, except poor Sally could not really move. She did some light massage on Dawn while he scarfed like a hungry dog. You have to love that. I spent the first 20 minutes on him, while Karen worked on Judy. She was sitting down, looking not too energetic. She was not tired really, but more weak from the stomach problems. Karen forced her to eat and drink, which she did: some Gu, milk, some chips, but not what I'd call a feast. I asked Judy how it had been going, she replied: "This horse is unbelievable- he is so strong, and wants to go faster than I want to. He feels stronger now than at the start!" I told her "Look at him- you have a ton of horse left here, you can pick it up and let him out a little more if you want." She realized she really did not like riding much faster than she was doing, so that's cool, she was right on her schedule, which on this ride you have to be. **Crew Goal 7: Tell the rider what they need to hear.** This one is pretty important. You need to be supportive, especially when the rider is not feeling as well as they could. We told her how great she was doing, right on time, and just look at the horse. We cleaned up Dawn and tacked him back up while Judy changed some clothes and prepared for the night. **Back to Crew Goal 5: Get her out on time.** I am really focused on this goal, (Ya think?) so we had her waiting at the out timer with a minute to go. Perfect. I told her ride safe, ride smart, and have fun. She hopped up, smiled, and off she went into the evening on my boy. I got that little pang again, but knew she'd be okay. You have to know her, I guess. The only creature I have ever known who can be more stubborn and tough is Warpaint. The two of them have always been quite a pair.

Now it's really time to wait. We walked back to the truck, talk-

ing to riders, friends, and crew people as we went. It's a good feeling to have your rider still in it. We cleaned up camp and drove out of the check as the last shades of day left. As we drove down the dark highway, I kept looking up at that moon, like I always do in this ride. That moon taunts and mocks me when I don't finish, but last year Dawn and I owned it. This year I had to let Judy take her best shot at that moon, hoping she would defeat it. As we drove I kept putting myself down on the trail, riding my favorite section, at night, on my horse: *stop it and drive*. She will be fine. We drove down to the fairgrounds and parked the rig in the parking lot. Note to self- next time put it out away from the other rigs. We had Sally go directly to bed and try and sleep, since she was hurting pretty badly. She felt bad for not being able to help, but she was injured. Karen and I drove over and prepared the stall for my horse, who would be arriving in about 4 hours. I know he will be arriving, off the trail, not in a trailer. **Crew Goal 8: try and get some sleep.** It's now midnight thirty, and we are sleepy, having been up for about 21 hours minus a quick nap. We went and looked at the official rider status board- none to helpful. They had been having problems with the rider status system, so people had been calling friends at home with a computer to have them check the webcast for them, since it was better than the actual information we got at the ride. Way to go, Jackie Floyd and crew! I should have brought my hand-held. We did try and get some sleep, but a lot of the people in the parking lot were not being very considerate of people trying to get some much needed shuteye. I know everyone's excited, but come on. Next time I'll park away from the other rigs. I think I slept for about an hour, partially because of the talking and trucks, but the other part found me thinking about Judy and Dawn.

At 3:00am (yawn) we woke up and went to the actual finish line at the overlook. Once again, the main rider status board at the stadium has no updates since Foresthill. There are lots of people there at the finish waiting for their own riders, and as soon as they pop out of the darkness, the crowd will cheer and clap. It always seems to be someone else's rider coming in, though. I expected Judy in between 3:30 and 4. The one and only Julie Suhr was there, dozing in a chair, waiting for her daughter Barbara White to get her 28th completion. The mind just reels at this one. **Crew Goal 4.1 again. Man, I'm nervous.** Just be calm. I know they can do it, but where are they? I check with the finish people that have a radio. No, not any information from Francisco's or the quarry. Every few minutes a horse or more comes up the trail. They are so happy, and they should be. Great job, every one of you. Here comes Robert and Melissa Ribley- Judy had been riding with them earlier, so maybe she's almost here. More waiting. A grey horse! Nope, another happy rider. Where are they? Here is Barbara- hooray! Judy was ahead of her at Foresthill. I'd pace, but there is nowhere to walk. Then we hear it- the radio report that everyone has been waiting for. The finish lady holds the radio up in the air- the guy is announcing rider number and the status at the quarry. It was absolutely great- picture 50 crew people leaning over the fence, silent, looking at each other with big eyes, listening like it was a radio broadcast about the end of the world. As soon as a crew's rider number is mentioned, and their Quarry departure time, the crew people will shout "YES!" and share high fives. One rider's number is announced, but has been pulled at the Quarry. Their crew is just so depressed. They stand motionless, stare in disbelief, turn, and slowly walk away. Number this, blah, number that, blah, come on! Then: "Number 110, that's one, one, zero, in the quarry at 2:52, and Out at 2:59." The relief is like falling into a vat of ice water. Now I'm awake! I know she's going to make it. Now its time for the math. Six miles, flat road along

the river, the bridge, the road, the trail, an hour, or 1:15. She will be here at 4:15 or 4:20. She has until 5:15- no problem. Its 4:15, 4:20, and at 4:22 my Dawn appears out of the dark, looking just fine. Everyone is cheering as she rides up and gets her finish slip. I hop over the little fence with his blanket and hug her as she gingerly steps down from the horse. Oh yes, the horse. He heads for the water, drinks big, and then looks at me to say, "Huh? Its over? We have to stop?" He looks incredible, and trots briskly for the quick overlook vet check. I lead my horse up over the wooden bridge and through the field that takes us to the fairgrounds and the official finish. I have to keep pausing to wait for Judy, since she's moving a lot slower than the horse. Dawn doesn't care, he just drops his head and eats grass. Karen and Sally are with her, congratulating her and talking about the last part of the ride. It turns out she had moved right along on the California loop, but then had done quite a bit of walking in the last few miles due to feeling so sick. We get to the post ride vet check- pulse 48, and the trot is kind of scary. We boom down and back at a trot that is almost a flat out run; the vet smiles and signs the rider card, just like last year. They did it! Judy surprises us all when she says: "Give me back that horse. I'm doing the victory lap!" She climbs back up on Dawn and takes off at a huge trot around the track at the stadium. I sure wish I had this on video! Dawn looks like he

just started. What a horse. And what a rider- she toughed it out, since there was no way she'd quit as long as the horse was still going. This is endurance, this is the Tevis.

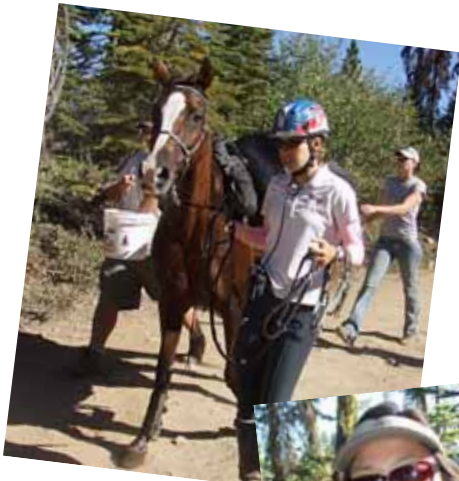
It wasn't hard to get Judy to head to the camper for a shower and sleep. I took my boy to the stall, where he headed to the food and went nuts. **Crew Goal 9: take care of that horse!** I let him eat for 30 minutes, then led him out to the big sand arena to roll. He flopped all around, after which he got up and took off at a trot across the big arena. Egad. It was almost 6 am before I wrapped his legs and left him in his stall eating. I staggered to the truck and slept for about 2 hours. We got up and went to visit the horse- still eating and happy. Karen left early to take Sally home to get checked out; the good news is she only suffered serious bruises to her ribs, but can't ride for a couple of weeks. (Now I'm riding her horse for her!) We hung around for the awards ceremony, where Judy collected her third buckle. Some highlights that impress the heck out of me- Robert Ribley: 10th buckle. Sandy Schuler, 20th buckle. Hal Hall: 26th buckle. Barbara White: 28th buckle. Now my boy is two for two here. We are on our way towards my career goals for him: 10,000 miles and 10 completions at Tevis. We are closing in on 20% there now, and I could not be much happier. I'm so proud of both of them. See you next year, but from the saddle!

QUICKSILVER MEMBER SNAPSHOTS AT TEVIS



QUICKSILVER 2007 TEVIS FINISHERS

- Jeremy Reynolds - 2nd buckle and 2007 Tevis Cup winner
- Barabara White - 28th buckle
- Robert Ribley - 10th buckle
- Gloria Vanderford - 10th buckle
- Melissa Ribley - 5th buckle
- Lori Oleson - 2nd buckle
- Haily Daeumler - 1st buckle



BAY AREA RIDGE TRAIL UPDATE

Not sure if you have heard, but with the \$10,000 we donated to the Ridge Trail last year, we have raised \$47,000 for the Ridge Trail over the last 4 years. In addition, last year we raised funds that purchased a water tank that enabled the reopening of the Corral Camp in Las Trampas Regional Wilderness to horse camping. We also raised funds that enabled 30 volunteers to spend a weekend working on the trails in and surrounding the Concord Mt. Diablo Trail Ride Association in Mt Diablo State Park, and we donated \$1,750 to the Muir Heritage Land Trust to aid in the construction of the Tina Batt Trail at Sky Ranch in Martinez, a 2 mile trail

built entirely by 250 volunteers on June 2-3. Turns out this trail will get extensive equestrian use from the stables down the hill even before it is linked to the Bay Area Ridge Trail in the not-so-distant future. We also donated \$1,000 to Save Mt. Diablo to be used in completing the 60-mile Diablo Loop Trail around the outskirts of Mt. Diablo.

By the way, we greatly appreciate the appearance, month after month, of our ride flyer in the Quicksilver Quips. Not sure how that happened, but thanks to whoever is responsible. We still have room on all days of our ride, so anyone who is interested should still get in touch.

– Morris Older

CLASSIFIED

MISC. FOR SALE

ALUMINUM TRAILER FOR SALE. Sooner, bumper pull. 1995, three horse slant load with a large tack room (could almost sleep in it!). Tires are like new. Has Rino liner under the mats. Comes with load leveler hitch components. \$8,000. Trailer is in the Santa Cruz area. (Aptos) Steve Shaw 831-685-3436. sshaw@pacbell.net [10-07]

HOUSE FOR SALE (BY OWNER) - Felton area (Santa Cruz County). 3 Bedroom 2 bath well laid-out home on almost an acre of flat, usable land. Beautiful creek side setting. Lots of parking. Custom kitchen to be designed and installed per buyers specifications during escrow. Potential horse property with miles of trails out of the backyard. \$759,000 Call (831) 234-4731. Photos and more information: <http://homes.realtor.com/prop/1081466802> [08-07]

****FREE**** Need wood pallets to stack hay or other materials on? We have dozens, most in good condition. Call Bing or Jennifer @ 408-997-2418. Or just come by and take your pick! [08-07]

TAX SERVICES. Need your taxes done? Call Trilby Pederson Tax Services - 408-997-7500. [09-07]

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/wildyearabians. [08-07]

HORSES FOR SALE

7 horses for sale and only one has not been started yet because she is not yet 3 yrs. old. I am planning to keep only 2 horses, so all the rest are for sale. Purebred Arabians with impressive pedigrees. Make me an offer. I have to sell these horses, so they are priced to sell. You can see some of them on my two websights, Calerok9.com and Calerocanine.com. You can also call me at 408-997-0999 or 408-891-9291. roman@calerocanine.com [10-07]

CP MAGESTIC, AKA Cal, AERC# H30480 Cal is an 12 year old, 15 honest hands, grey Arabian gelding. Hear rates are average. He is Sweepstakes Nominated and has an FEI passport. He has done 5 100 milers and is the most cheerful horse that I have ever ridden. Camps well, clips, loads, etc. as any pro would. Needs an experienced rider as he is forward. No vices. \$4500 OBO Contact Heather Reynolds 408 687-7082 cell 408 268-8703 home. [09-07]

EIGHT-YEAR-OLD PURBRED ARABIAN GELDING. Been conditioned up twice so needs about 12 weeks to be ready to go on his first 50. 14.3h, good legs, good mind, needs good rider. Asking \$5,000. Contact Diane: tref@wakerobinranch.com or (209) 742-8586 (Mariposa, CA). [09-07]

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. [07-07]

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. [08-07]

STALLION SERVICES

Introducing **CF SORCERER** - now standing at stud. Sire of TBR Granite Chief+, 2005 AHA Distance Horse of the Year, 2004-2005 AERC Ntnl. Mileage Champion, 2004 XP Horse of the Year. Visit his website at <http://www.spanisharabian.net/> or contact Wizard Arabians, Jackie Floyd, 209-334-1981, typenf@comcast.net [08-07]

WANTED

TWO HORSE (I WOULD PREFER A SLANT), SMALL, LIGHT TRAILER. Anywhere between 3-5k, it must be safe and in good condition. Please feel free to e-mail me and send me photos! Megan Doyle mykideatsgrass@hotmail.com [10-07]

READY-TO-GO ENDURANCE ARAB WANTED. Contact Linda Heywood, cell phone 408-839-6874, email: lheywood@nanometrics.com [08-07]

I'M LOOKING FOR A COMPANION HORSE for my 16 year old Arab gelding. Covered stall. 3/4 acre turnout. Calero area. \$200/month. Call Niki Lamb 408-323-9953 or e-mail nlamb@cbnorcal.com [08-07]

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.

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