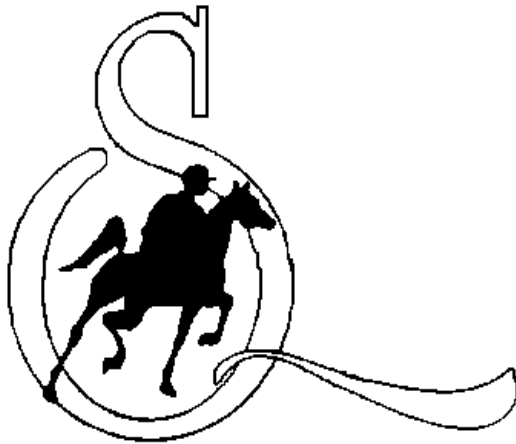


QUICKSILVER QUIPS

July 2005



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

President's Message

July seems to be the halfway mark for most of us. Looked at the calendar of events and the best ones are yet to come, at least, out west. July has Tevis and September and October are full. What with all the cancelled events and others not having been scheduled in the Spring we seem to be packed in the months ahead. Keep riding and keep the horses sound.

We have a scheduled event for an endurance ride in Oct. but we have no one to put it on. Trilby said she would do it again if 1. at Quicksilver park, 2. Someone takes over Lori's job helping her. We need a little variety in putting it on somewhere like Grant Ranch or Coe. Anyone interested out there?

We have no events setup for the meetings in July, August, September and October. The Board of Directors will have to decide what they want to do. We could use a few suggestions and if you have a guest speaker let me know.

Club members should start thinking of becoming more active in running our organization. Elections are in Oct. & Nov. and we really need a new direction. From the complaints I've been hearing it seems like the present administration has not met the needs of the members and certainly fresh ideas could put a "little juice" into our future. We need something to get going.

Still looking for a manager for a Poker Ride
Still looking for a manager for a Moonlite Ride
Still looking for a plan for the Fall Endurance Ride
Still looking for an idea for a Wed. meeting

El Presidente

PIPE FENCING WANTED Maryben has a friend who is looking for used pipe corrals....cheap. Call Maryben at 408 265-0839.
FOR SALE Dometic 6 cu ft. refrigerator for RV or Trailer. Runs on 110 or propane. Brand new, used once works perfectly. \$750.00. New costs \$1,100-1,300. Call Steve 408 997-0368

HORSE FOR SALE/LEASE

Arab Gelding—9 years old, fast walker & good attitude. Boarded at Trilby's & she can show him to you. Sonny has done several 50s & a couple of multi day rides with Trilby. Wants someone to ride him pleasure or endurance. Call Carla at 408 569-6600

STALLION SERVICES

Introducing **CF SORCERER** - now standing at stud. Sire of TBR Granite Chief+, 2004 AERC 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, typéf@comcast.net

SADDLES & TACK FOR SALE

Free and Easy 17 inch black saddle. 1 year-old "endurance special". \$1900, obo. Call Megan Doyle (408) 315-0519.

Abbetta Endurance saddle, pretty much brand new. 10 rides only. \$275.00.

Australian stock saddle, older, with Toklat pad \$150.00.

Sprenger safety stirrups Brand new, never been used. No idea what size. They came with a saddle I no longer have. Still in box. Jackie Floyd 209-334-1981 or typéf@comcast.net

Feed keeper/crew bag, red, by Australian Connection. Never used. \$15.

Lovell of Mack English saddle cantle bag, \$30.

Hi-Tie bungee tether--never used. \$20

Mackinder endurance saddle from Australia. <http://www.mackinderendurance.com/>. \$1500. Comes with EZ Ride stirrups. Fleece saddle pad to go with it \$50.

JRD dressage type saddle—custom made with slightly forward flaps and knee rolls for endurance as well as plenty of rings for hanging things. 18.5" seat; flaps are probably somewhat short. \$2500. Postage is extra for all items. Laney 831-659-1209 or laneyhh@comcast.net

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.

96 x 48 outdoor arena. Close to 3,600 acre Almaden Quicksilver County Park with 19 miles of manicured trails. Call Trilby at 408 997-7500.

RANCH CATS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION Fixed/current on shots. Contact janice.frazier@sbcglobal.net or 408 268-2177.

DOG FOSTER CARE urgently needed. **Tuffie's Animal Rescue** is looking for a few good dog lovers. The pooches are spayed/neutered and have their shots. Call Diane Habener at 925 462-6480 or 925 209-6480 for information. The dogs can also be seen online at Petfinders.org.

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.

COMPLEXION PROTECTION

Lots of lovely moisturizing and sun protection available for all you out door types. For information and samples, call Gillian Tabb at 408 482 0219 or check out my web page www.marykay.com/gtabb.

This stuff really works—ed.

Dynamite Products Distributor
www.dynamiteonline.com
Jan Jeffers, sleeeker@garlic.com
408 779-4722

LOCAL HORSE TRAIL PUBLICATION

“Equestrian Trails in the Santa Cruz Mountains and Beyond—Access to Public Lands for Horse and Rider” by Claudia Goodman.

This trail guide inventories public lands in the Santa Cruz Mountains and south bay area where horse and rider are welcome. Details of roads, staging areas, amenities, camping facilities and trails are described. Half of the profits of the guide benefit the Santa Cruz County Horsemen's Association. To order the book, send a check or money order for \$25 payable to Claudia Goodman, PO Box 715, Boulder Creek, 95006.

**QUICKSILVER ENDURANCE RIDERS
MEETING 06-15-2005**

This month's meeting was held at Bob and Julie Suhr's house again this year and was pretty well attended. They provided an excellent barbecue and other members supplied potluck dishes. Everyone had a great time.

Our speaker was Robin Hamby who gave a very interesting presentation on Equine Massage, ably assisted by Nudera and Katie Alton. Robin handed out business cards to those interested in participating in one of her equine massage clinics.

Dick Carter treated us to recitations of comic poems.

We didn't have a regular meeting this time but one subject came up for discussion that required a vote. During the Quicksilver Spring Ride, Scott Samson's water tank was damaged and needs to be replaced. It was decided by a show of hands that the person who accidentally caused the damage would pay 50% and the Club the remaining 50% towards replacement.
Secretary, Elaine Alton

Meeting Story

Last night was a wonderful, balmy evening as the Quicksilver Endurance Riders gathered for the annual barbecue at Bob and Julie Suhr's. As a first year club member, it was fun to expand my knowledge (guest speaker on massage) and to laugh out loud at Dick Carter's poetry.

The food was delightful from the appetizers to the fudge brownies for dessert (and a nice cabernet thanks to our El Presidente opening the bottle I brought - which of course 'evaporated' shortly thereafter). My kids, their friends and another riding buddy I'm trying to recruit as a member enjoyed the gracious hospitality of the Suhr's as well as the stories and musings of the guests. Thanks everyone for making us feel so welcome!!!

Hope everyone there had as much fun as we did!

Sandy Holder, Katie, Josh and his harem (oops, they are beautiful but will probably kill me for that!)

ANNOUNCEMENT

Beginning in August the Quips will have a new editor, **Jackie Floyd**, who has been a regular ride story contributor since she became a member. Jackie is well qualified for the job because she publishes several other newsletters, administers websites, is a professional photographer and will soon publish the "Endurance Guide". The Quips will have some good pictures at last☺ I will continue to copy and snail mail the Quips.

The QS membership made this job really easy by submitting so much material.. Please keep up the good work for Jackie by sending her lots of stories, articles, jokes and ads☺ Jackie can be reached at P.O. Box 1045, Lodi, CA 95241, phone 209-334-1981. Her e-mail address is typéf@comcast.net

Judy Etheridge (current editor)

MEMBER NEWS

This year's Fort Schellbourne XP saw several Quicksilver members riding. The team of **Karen Chaton** and **Granite Chief** completed all 5 days followed by **Pat Verheul** and **Razznan** who top-tenned each of the 4 days they competed, capping it off by finishing in first place on their last day! **Jackie Floyd** and **James Dean & Tank** and **Becky Glaser** and **Marks Juliette** also completed 4 days—what was it about that third day☺

Michele Roush riding a different horse each day did well over three days coming in second and earning a **BC** on Cayenne on day 3. **Jeff Luternauer** and **PC Phoenix** completed days 1, 3 & 5. **Laney Humphrey** and **Arrow Dynamic** teamed up for day 1 and she rode **Zee Guardsman (Zig)** on day 3.

Several QS members participated in the Californios 100 on June 4. **Heather** on **CP Magestic** came in first by a neck in a thrilling finish. They left the last vet check 3-4 minutes after the 1st place horse and caught up in a very few miles. **Alexandra North** and **Butterbea** placed 8th and **Gloria Vanderford & BA Reselience** finished 18th.

Yours truly crewed (with some very welcome help from **Hugh Vanderford**) for Alex and Butterbea. I haven't crewed for a 100 in a long time and had forgotten what a challenge that presents. Makes me appreciate my hubby a lot more for the several 100s he crewed ☺

July 2005 quips

TRAIL EVENTS

July 9 McCrary Ranch, Swanton. St. Jude's ride to raise money to help children with cancer. There is a choice of riding the 7, 8, 10 or 20 miles trail. You pledge so much per mile and try to get your friends to pledge so much per mile for you as well. This ride is similar to the leukemia and breast cancer walk-a-thons. You can ride by yourself or with a group as long as you start anytime between 10 a.m. and noon. More information on the Santa Cruz Horsemen's website www.SantaCruzHorsemen.org
Thanks to Julie for this notice ☺

July 9 & 10 Calero County Park Trail work opportunity. Meet at 9:00 AM at the Equestrian parking lot for 4 hours of trail maintenance in the Park. We will be working on the Canada Del Oro Trail. No experience needed. Tools, gloves, & refreshments provided. Please wear long pants, long sleeves, and closed toed shoes. **Contact with poison oak is always a concern, please take appropriate precautions, bring a change of clothes if necessary.** RSVP 355-2254.

August 14, Ed Levin County Park Poker Ride sponsored by the Arabian Trail Riders Assoc. Check in 9:30-10:30 AM, ride out 10:00-11:00 AM, lunch 1:00 PM. \$20 to enter, \$5 park entrance fee. Call Kathy Mayeda 650 967-2050 or Kathy.Mayeda@comcast for information.

August 20th Bear Ranch a ranger-led ride exploring the geology of this new park. Riders will meet at the **Mendoza Ranch** staging area. Please be ready to ride out at 9:00 AM. If you prefer to start at the Bear staging area, make sure you are at the Mendoza by 9:00 AM. RSVP at 363-5976 so they know how many people to expect.

EQUESTRIAN LAND USE ISSUES

WATER QUALITY PROTECTION

The following information is from a recent San Ramon Valley Horsemen's Association newsletter.

On May 7 a small group of equestrians, ranchers, county administrators, and others met to learn more about the Clean Water Act and how it effects horse owners, particularly with regard to manure management.

Jessica Hamburger from the Natural Resources Conservation Service spoke about the degradation of our local waterways and the recent alarming loss of different small fish. John Ginichio (Mt. Diablo rancher) the meeting

“emcee”, suggested that horse and cattle people work with Jessica, as a reasonable and sympathetic administrator, to identify best practices for maintaining the purity of our creeks and waterways. Jessica agreed that there are many reasons for the current level of pollution but there are opportunities for horse owners, such as never letting your horse leave manure in or near water, storing manure on a cement pad, installing French drains, promptly removing manure or spreading it so it will dry quickly, and forming a cooperative arrangement with a nearby nursery that might want to use the manure. Apparently there is a state of the art on Cull Canyon road.

Steve Wright, county administrator, spoke about his role. **Whenever a homeowner makes a complaint, the county is required to investigate it and come to a resolution.** This often involves money even if the livestock owner is following reasonable management practices. He also appeared to be sympathetic to horse owner concerns.

Bonnie Davis, a local trail riding expert and avid follower of political issues, recommended that any time an agency accuses horse or cattle people of polluting waterways to ask for the data to back up their claims. She said that recent studies from US Davis conclude that horse manure does not contribute the giardia and cryptosporidium found in our local waterways. E. coli, of course, is a different matter as it comes from all animal sources, including human. One thing Bonnie reminded us is to never leave manure at a staging area parking lot!

The Clean Water Act is here; the Weed Free Feed requirement is coming. This program already exists in Nevada and requires that anyone riding on public land have proof that their horse have only been consuming weed free feed (pellets or certified hays). Big fine in Nevada if you get caught!

There are many reasons that we have a horse club and one of the most important, even if it isn't the most fun, is working together to stay informed about policies that affect us. John would like us to work with cattle people since we all have visible animals on open land.

WILD HORSE FRIENDLY NEWS

On May 19, the same day that the House of Representatives voted to ban the sale of wild horses for slaughter the Ford Motor Company announced that it would provide aid to preserve thousands of wild mustangs

July 2005 quips

that currently face an uncertain future. In addition, the company is offering a means for the public to help “Save the Mustangs”—by working with BLM and Take Pride in America to establish a fund to help ensure their long term sustainability and care.

New Member Notes

This column that is being revived after a long lapse.

I started riding at 6 at the Colorado State University stables as my dad was a professor there and knew the stable manager. At 10 my family moved to Bangkok, Thailand for 2 years and I became a student at the riding school there. It was run by a very strict German woman whose teaching methods bordered on the cavalry style of riding. The horses we rode and we Americans bought were Thai ponies who were retired from the racetrack. They looked like very small Arabs, had many bad habits, but were a great learning experience. We rode English and spent hours playing gymkhana games.

My family returned to Colorado and I went back to riding western. A family friend ran week long trail rides for East coast tourists in the Rockies and I got to go along and ride drag behind all the greenhorns. I was 13 at the time and loved spending all day in the saddle and sleeping with my dog in a tent at night. We also lived in an area where my friends and I had our horses in pasture that was practically in our backyards so we rode constantly. I also was into barrel racing during those years.

At 15 my family moved to Fresno CA and I took English riding lessons at Ram Tap stables which was big into Combined Training and 3 Day. I became a member of Pony Club and got to the B level. I did lots of competing; I loved eventing, especially the cross-country jumping phase. Then college interrupted my riding as my parents could only finance one (school or horses) and they decided college was the best choice!

Career (teaching), marriage, and children took all my time for many years. I rode occasionally during that time, either on vacations at a working cattle ranch or on borrowed horses or renting horses at the beach. Then four years ago I decided to take lessons again. Through the powers that be, I ended up at Lightfoot with Becky Hart teaching me Centered Riding. After all my years with horses it was a bit like starting all over and I loved it.

Two years ago I bought my Arabian gelding, Bart, from Becky and Judith and learned about all the wonderful trails around here. Last summer I did some LD's and now I am doing 50's. I also try to throw in some dressage when I can. It is so great to be back with horses on a daily basis, I have met wonderful new friends and hope to spend many happy years going down the trail! Happy trails, Kathy Brayton

IF HORSES WERE IN HIGH SCHOOL

Jeri Ayers-Scott contributed these cute horsey descriptions

Quarter Horses: Definitely jocks. Strutting around flexing those muscles, showing off their butts. Not real bright. But get passed on since they are responsible for all the trophies in the glass cases.

Paints: Just a QH with too much make up on.

Thoroughbreds: Preppies. They are athletes, never ‘jocks’. Monogrammed blankets, leather halters, Nike eventer shoes, the latest custom trailer and tack.

Appaloosas: Could only be the stoners. They like to drop acid so they can watch their spots move.

Arabians: RAH!! SIS BOOM BAH!
GOOOOOO TEAM!! (Need I say more?)

Shetland Ponies: Frightening, spiky hairdos, snotty attitude and any color of the rainbow. Got to be PUNKS. Some even sport tattoos.

Friesians: Big, buff and always in black; they are the biker clique. Cigs hanging out of the corner of their mouths, dangerous glint in the eyes, daring anyone to cross their path.

Morgans: They're the nerdy teacher's pets, running around doing everything from the yearbook to decorating the gym and ratting out the bikers, stoners and jocks. They have perpetual wedgies.

Drafts (all breeds): No real clique; they're just the big guys who sit in the back of the room and fart a lot and then laugh. Who's going to STOP them?

Ahkle Tekl (Akle Takl? Ackle Tackle..Akhla Teke!!): Foreign exchange student(s). And no one can spell their names either.

Hackney Ponies: The band geeks. Marching along with their knees and heads up in the air.

Central Valley Girl Meets Bog Ft. Schellbourne XP June 6-10, 2005

I'd heard tales of how beautiful the Ft. Schellbourne ride was and hoped some day The Nicholson's would be able to put it on again. This year turned out to be the lucky year and it was indeed beautiful. I took more pictures than should be legal (but I think Karen Chaton beat me in that department) and dawdled so long on the trail the first day, it was ridiculous. GREAT thanks go out to The Duck and Mrs. Duck and the ever-present Ducklings for taking us back to Ft. Schellbourne and giving us such a grand time. It turned out to be my favorite ride, so far in my short career. The Nicholson's work very hard to put on these rides and it is truly a family effort.

Sharon Kirkpatrick and RC Yankee Clipper joined me for this journey. It was nice to have someone to share the trip with and the expenses since this was a 13-hour drive for us. We camped over at Eureka Fairgrounds on the way over and watched the sun set over the mountains. It didn't take us long to finish up the trip the next morning and give the horses pretty much, an entire day to chill.

Les Carr and I tried to ride together in the morning. But it was a strange day. Tulip was higher than a kite and so was Tank and they were both pulling our arms out. If Tank got just a hair in front of Tulip, fireworks would result. Enough that one time Tulip decided to launch Les going up a steep hill. It was a beautiful morning but rather frustrating in the horse-controlling department. Les and I decided to part company at lunch and go our separate ways and the afternoon was much more enjoyable. Usually, these two horses jog along the trail side by side in cadence so it was an odd experience, to say the least.

The weather this year, I'm told, was much different than the normal hot, dusty. We had rain, snow, hail, wind and sleet and more rain. And it was wonderful. It settles the dust and made it cooler for the horses, who

seemed to love it. And it wasn't obnoxious. Well, maybe the sleet ... I only heard about it since I sat out Day 3. The clouds were a constant art show and made tremendously dramatic panoramas. It was hard to ride and not just stop and stare. I kept stopping and taking so many pictures the afternoon of Day 1, by the time I looked at my watch I wasn't sure I was going to make it in on time. I just wanted to stay out there and stare!

We were warned about the bogs. And quite earnestly. However, there are some of us who have never seen a bog before. One of those would be me. Day 1 found me blindly walking through a muddy section on a road right before lunch, only to find my trusty stead suddenly up past his knees in "quicksand." It was an odd sensation, sort of like being on a carousel horse with a little more action. Tank tried valiantly three times to launch his way out of it and by the third time I was so off balance, there was no saving it and since I was only two feet from the ground at the time, it was an easy fall. Needless to say, Tank was VERY leary of any black mud for the remainder of our days there! And Les decided he should lead the rest of the way in. Gee, ya think?? I wasn't alone in my bogginess ... many succumbed to the black goo, including those with previous experience. Among others, I seem to recall hearing another certain Jackie from down south, doing a dive ... The Duck finally gave up and re-routed the last day in an effort to keep the level of "adventure" down.

Day 2 found me riding James Dean ... in the snow! It had snowed the night before and the mountains were covered in a beautiful white blanket. It didn't dawn on me until I'd saddled up that James is the one that almost caused a wreck at Rides of March with Tulip when he became absolutely terrified of the snow after he's stepped into it. But I decided to brave it and go forth. Our morning took us up to the top of El Capitan pass and by the time James actually had to step in the snow, we'd been gradually riding up through

July 2005 quips

it for miles on either side of the trail and he was too darn tired to even care. Mission accomplished. It wasn't until the second loop when there were only piles of it here and there that he actually started shying from it. Silly boy. The snow-covered lupines going up the pass were a beautiful site and even though snowflakes were coming down as we rode, the sun was out and it was just breathtaking!

After Day 1's bog episode, you can better believe I was sticking close behind Chief's butt going down a canyon full of bogs. That would be all I'd need, to fall in riding James who has no common sense. Oddly enough, he must have sensed my concern and was ever so responsive and moved in little increments left and right and never argued with me about where he should be putting his feet. He must have known it was important. We had a big climb in the afternoon also and James was pretty tired of the whole day when we finally came into camp. We don't have these kind of "hills" close to home and I have not had the time to trailer anywhere to practice on them. So James got to sit the rest of the week out.

Let's see, what I learned on Day 1 ... What bogs are. What I learned on Day 2 ... when The Duck screams by you in the jeep, pulls over to the side of the road, slams on his breaks, jumps out and asks "Do you have a map?" The correct answer is "No!" The white "druggie" bag (re: flour-filled ziplock bag) he was holding in his hand should have been the clue ... But hey, what's a little trail marking when you're riding as slow as I was? Glad to help, Dave :)

I'm not as young as I feel. Or I feel older than I really am. Or "You say we're going out again TODAY??" I chose to sit Day 3 out. I tried that at Grand Canyon but Katie Gies wouldn't let me. This time I got away with it, even though I got a look of pure "What: are you nuts?" from Karen I-ride-ever-day-of-the-XP's-Chaton. Ok, so we're not all quite so tough! :) My day was spent hauling water since by then we'd run out,

and looking into how much damage I might have under my truck and trailer since we'd pull out into gobs of sagebrush to park the first day. My lesson on Day 3 was to look around at the "Been There, Done That" XP trailers that I have now nicknamed "Monster Trailers" since they have all been raised. Gee, I wonder why.....

I spent the afternoon working on the book. I was supposed to have done that Sunday and it never happened. And since I had made a deal with myself that the only way I could go was if I finished all the work I'd brought with me, it didn't seem so bad, sitting in camp, working on my laptop when everyone else was on top of the mountain in the wind and sleet. I picked the right day to sit out!

Oh, I forgot something else I learned on Day 1 ... or really something that I'm confirming this year ... Tank is a completely different horse on a trail he's been on before. Yes, I know I said I'd never been here, but after Tank started bombing down the last long hill on Day 1, made an abrupt, immediate right at the county road and then again off on a two-track, with an immediate cutting horse turn a few strides later down the left fork of a trail whose ribbon I didn't see until we'd gotten around the corner, it dawned on me there was a reason why he was so animated ... He was remembering the trail from three years earlier when his previous owner, Brett Geis, had ridden him there. No wonder he was such a handful in the morning! He pulled my arms out of the sockets all the way back to camp. I truly find it amazing how much a horse can remember about trails.

Which brings us to Day 4 and 5. Since we were repeating a lot of the trails, only in different directions and different combinations, Tank was not the least bit "tired." I've let him make me believe many a time that I was killing him. And in reality he was just pulling my leg. Ok, so I don't call 7.5-8-hour rides fast, but Tank's attitude and willingness to proceed without a care or his usual sigh and look over his shoulder at me,

July 2005 quips

was "music to my ears." We finished at 3:15 PM and 3:45 PM, I believe on Day 4 and 5, instead of our normal 5:00 or 6:00 PM. and it was a tug of war both days. I should be able to lift a much heavier bale of hay now. We did have an argument went we came down that county road again in the morning on Day 5 at the turn-off to the two-track. We were to proceed straight in the AM and turn in the PM. Tank was bound and determined to make that right turn and although I talked him into going straight, we went about a mile down the road with his head turned back over his shoulder to the right, with the brakes on, until I finally successfully pointed out to him that camp lay just up ahead.

I think I've forgotten one more thing that I learned and I'm sure Karen will let me know what it is ... oh yeah ... how to fill rooftop water tanks from the hose on the side of your trailer, instead of climbing on top and unscrewing the lid. (I'm still new ...)

Sharon and Clipper had an interesting trip in that it was Clipper's first time away from home in a different rig, without his pen and without his usual home buddies, which resulted in Clipper not drinking very well. Sharon chose to sit out Day 1 because of it. After conferring with The Duck, it was decided that she would go out on Day 2. Clipper ate and drank his way down the trail and made us all feel a lot better. She also sat out Day 3, but went out on Day 4 and 5 and finished with a very healthy-looking horse. I have to say I'm proud of Sharon for doing what was best for her horse and recognizing that she could bring him through his first trip in unfamiliar surroundings successfully.

Les Carr successfully finished all 5 days along with 12 other horse and rider teams, which of course, included **Karen Chaton** on

TBR Granite Chief+. Karen's other horse Rocky (the Flying Squirrel), not only finished 1st on Day 1 ridden by Dave Rabe, but also won BC. Dave had a really good trip ... he got BC on Day 2 on his own horse Lightening Strike and also on Day 4 on the Sherwood's horse Blackie. What are you going to do with all those plaques, Dave???

A new acquaintance of mine this ride was Vicki Greene who rode with Karen Chaton all five days on two different horses. I had a great time chatting with her and talking about Tevis. She almost has me convinced I could do it on Tank. Hmmm

By the way, for those of you who haven't heard, Chief (2004 AERC National Mileage Champion and 2004 XP Horse of the Year) will have a new buddy on the trail next year ... his daddy! CF Sorcerer was offered to me and I grabbed him and ran. He is currently residing in my backyard surrounded by three mares with dreamy eyes and is adjusting well to his new surroundings. I'm going to spend the rest of this year getting him up to speed and will start bringing him to rides in 2006. Even though Sorce has not been campaigned as a stallion, he has 11 offspring, two of which belong to Karen Chaton. He is a complete and utter doll and quite the gentleman. I can't wait for you all to meet him! In the meantime, you can visit his brand new home on the web at www.spanisharabian.net. I've named my new breeding operation in his honor and we are now officially called Wizard Arabians. The picture shows from left to right, Chief, Zenos and Sorcerer.

I think my next ride will be Gold Country. Guess I'd better send in my entry form!

:) Jackie, Tank and James Dean

July 2005 quips

COOLEY RANCH RIDE

We just got back from the Cooley Ranch Ride. I was really looking forward to it until I heard the weather report. I figured light rains would teach my young mare how to camp and be horse. I took my two mares - Pizzazz, 16, and Suzy, 6, up to the ride to get Suzy through her first ride.

When we arrived at 1 pm Friday afternoon it was still very wet. Mike, Alec and I with friend Barb Granter saw that getting into camp was the first challenge. Most of the rigs needed to be pulled through the mud across a small dip that was filled with mud. Ron Waltenspiel was out there with his hearty tractor pulling each rig that attempted to cross through the last section. We camped with the Eckerd's, Katie Alton and Nina and Florian.

Once everyone was settled in camp, a few ventured out to do a short ride and to assess the trail. It was muddy. There was no getting around the mud on this ride..... There were about 90 riders in the 50 and 40 in the 25 as of Friday. Many of the riders that were using this for Tevis training decided not to start; they just didn't want to risk injury. Only about half the riders in the 50 started and 30 or so of the 25 milers started.

Well, it not only had been raining all day but rained all through Friday night as well.... The ride started at 6:00am for the 50's and 6:30am for the 25's. Melissa Ribley, Roger Hanes, Jamie Kerr, and Claude Pacheco were just a few of the vets vetting. The criteria was 60 all day; it was cool and temperature was perfect for the ride. I was afraid that if it warmed up too much, there could be problems with humidity.

Those of us that were there just for the ride, braved it. I am so glad we did. It was slick and deep and water was everywhere and sun peeked through and teased us with a glimpse of light and then hid away quickly. But it was a great ride and a great day. What a great training ride. In the mud those horses did a workout as if in deep sand and did great. Our friend Barb Granter rode Pizzazz and had a wonderful day. Suzy came through the ride like a champ. They both finished and looked great--I couldn't have asked for more.

Kathy and Potato Richardson came in 1st and 2nd, Michele Roush came in 3rd and received Best Condition (horse looked awesome!!), Scott Samson came in 5th, Jeff Hartner came in 8th and our now Senior rider Katie Alton came in 10th with a tie for highest vet score and Tai's first top ten with Katie(whoooooo hoooo). There was only 1 pull on the 50 and I think all the 25's completed. Maryben can correct me later...Peggy Eaton completed the 25 and other QS members, Bing and Jennifer Voight, Ken Cook and Kathy Miller were there, too.

We had great food, great wine, great company, and after the banquet we roasted marshmallows, ate s'mores and had a great time...

I can say it was one of the best rides I have been to, and Ruth and Ron always make it a pleasure....

Kirsten Berntsen

Ed. note: Ally, the horse I wrote about in a recent Quips, finished 7th even though her new owner stopped to give Jeff Harter an easyboot. Linda was thrilled by Ally's performance and only wished that her trot could be moderated; this was Linda's first endurance ride in nearly a year and she was thrashed☺

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 2005 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 wonderful Year 2005 riding together
as
members of the Quicksilver Endurance Riders!!!**

July 2005 quips

the next meeting will be on wednesday, july 20
at the New Almaden community Center, Bertram Road, next to the

La Foret restaurant

Board meets at 6:30 PM (members welcome)

General meeting 7:00 Pm

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