

Quicksilver Quips

November 2005

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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 stories material, but not a prerequisite.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Here we are going into November and as an organization we need to take a few steps back and evaluate the year. My impression is that for the most part we accomplished our mission, to be an endurance club by having 2 endurance rides. The Spring Ride was put on by Trilby, a tried and true member of many years and the Fall Ride was put on by Sandy and Peggy, two dedicated members who count their membership as new. Both rides were successful, at different parks and had heavy involvement by the members. Our reward is that we now have \$\$\$ in the treasury and can have a great Awards Banquet.

On the other side of the year is the fact that no one stepped up to do the Moonlite Ride or the Poker Ride. These are two events that in the past brought the club together for enjoyment and fun. Also we didn't have our barn dance or a real bona fide Bar-b-que. The smaller ones were fun (at Calero) and I guess we could say they took the place of the others, still getting together for fun events makes the club work.

An issue coming up is Who Will Run The Club next year? We had nominations at the last meeting (October) and three of the nominees have called me to decline. What's up with that? If people aren't happy and not involved in the club then they should find another home. It takes REAL work to keep the club together and moving forward. Just look at who's doing all the work. Yes, they are doing a great job but help is needed. Why not find a little something to add to the pot. Wallflowers look good but what value are they? Stand up and be somebody.

Don't pay attention to the nay sayers and bad mouth members (or the noisy ones) who seem to cause problems. Be the giver. If nothing else you can always help me cook!

FYI-How about saying thank-you to those who have done so much for the club over the past year. Board members, Ride Managers., volunteers, cooks (me), news editor & staff, etc., etc., etc.

El Presidente – Steve-0

When your horse follows you with out being asked, when he rubs his head on yours, and when you look at him and feel a tingle down your spine you know you are loved...do you love him back?

QSER FALL CLASSIC RESULTS

Hi fellow QSER members,

Peggy, Katie and I had a heck of a challenge stepping in at the last moment to help get the club's annual Fall Classic off the ground but the ride results are in and THANKS TO MANY OF YOU, the ride was a huge success! In fact, between ride entry fees and the raffle, less expenses, financially we came out \$1,606.38 on the positive side!!!

We had so many wonderful volunteers help us that it would be difficult to name them all (vet checks, lunch and dinner, raffle and just 'helping hands'). However, you'll know who they are (or were) when they show up at rides or meetings with their now famous royal blue t-shirts with the QSER Fall Classic Volunteer logo on them (well, except for Barbara White's shirt that sports the infamous "Vulunteer"). By the way, anyone that ended up without a logo on their shirt, just let us know as Katie has offered to 'fix' them!! Thanks as well to our wonderful vets, Michele Rouch, David Byerly and Matt Randall. I sent flowers to David's wife (no expense to the club) to thank her for "supporting the QSER club ride". As many of you may have heard, his wife's birthday was the Friday that he spent with us vetting horses in!!

Actual finisher names were previously sent but there were (15) 25 milers starting with (10) finishers, and (30) 50 milers starting with (17) finishers. Our own Gloria Vanderford won the 50 miler BC!!

Peggy, Katie and I offered to help do the next ride but Steve mentioned at our last meeting that there are others interested in being the RM. Our advise to those wanting to do that is PLEASE STEP FORWARD as we've been warned that it's becoming much more difficult to get permits for rides. I can attest to the insurance issues we faced and am more than willing to help whomever to get that part of the process completed.

Thanks again to everyone for your help, advice, comments and suggestions.

Happy Trails,
The QSER Fall Classic Ride Management Team
Peggy, Sandy and Katie

<u>50 Mile</u>	<u>25 Mile</u>
Deborah Brashears ...100.00	Debbie Boscoe 50.00
Rhonda Craythorn 110.00	Jean Campbell..... 100.00
Shelby Craythorn.....70.00	Stephanie Early 50.00
Marla Gallo100.00	Eric Forster 110.00
Sarah Garcia 115.00	Krista Haas 90.00
Alexis Goldner100.00	Nina Murch 105.00
Hillary Graham..... 115.00	Rachel Neppl 115.00
Beth Guedreau 110.00	E. Michael Pearl .. 110.00
Akwai Hinman100.00	Nancy Reed..... 110.00
Robin Hinrichs100.00	Julienne Rha..... 90.00
Tracy Hofstrand100.00	Julie Roby 100.00
Anna Howako60.00	Scott Sansom 70.00
Madeleine Kirsch100.00	Jim Stringfield 100.00
Christina Kramlich 120.00	Robert Takle..... 90.00
William Maich100.00	
Penny McGinnis 120.00	Total 1,290.00
Jeanette Mero 145.00	
Martha Merriam100.00	
Lori Oleson100.00	
Dale Peterson.....100.00	
Pam Plaggmier-Villa..120.00	
Linda Poston 110.00	
Cassandra Schuler....100.00	
Jennifer Sloan130.00	
Jenni Smith.....100.00	
Lorri Stringfield100.00	
Gloria Vanderford100.00	
Patricia Verheul60.00	
Bing Voight100.00	
Jennifer Voight.....100.00	
David Whittall 115.00	
Total.....3,200.00	
Grand Total4,490.00	

*A stubborn horse
walks behind you, an
impatient horse walks
in front of you, but
a noble companion
walks beside you.*

* * *

*Wild oats aren't meant
for sowing -
but they make a
nice trail snack.*

RIGHT TO RIDE – PLEASE ACT QUICKLY

Hi All,

Just got this off the NATRC list form Director, Laurie DiNatale, and sent my message right in. When you go to this site it will ask you for your zip code which then pulls up the correct legislators for your address--very slick. The site is the AQHA one.

It was noted at the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington meeting Saturday that the recent request to contact our legislators about the Right to Ride bill fell short of being persuasive. Of the some 3100 members of BCHW only a handful responded. Other federal lands users are working hard to exclude the horseman from our mountain trails.

-If you want to ride a horse on federal lands in the future (or you want your grandkids to) send an email to Maria Cantwell, etc.... today. Patty Murray will not sign on unless Maria does. Maria has only received 45-60 emails and says "if the horse folks don't care why should I?" Patty and Maria are Washington State legislators.

It's as easy as copying and pasting the below and entering your zip code, etc. It only takes a moment to do.

<http://capwiz.com/aqha/issues/alert/?alertid=7749306&type=CO>

DON'T DELAY - DO IT TODAY.

**Best,
Judy**

QUICKSILVER ENDURANCE RIDERS, INC BOARD AND GENERAL MEETING 10-19-05

The above meeting was held at Calero Park along with a potluck meal and ride.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Junior Account	\$ 777.56
Trails Account	\$1,010.74
General Account	\$4,521.69

TRAILS

We talked about an e-mail that was sent out concerning permits from the Forest Service. We need to get permits earlier due to the new wait period of 4-6 months. We should try to get permits right after an annual ride to get it in time. Basically, we can't wait until the last minute to put on a ride. We should plan dates for future rides now in order to get it approved and done.

NEWSLETTER

Name in e-mail about Fall ride said "Chris Holder" instead of Katie Holder... correct on typef?

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Motion about changing elections. To do this we have to change the bylaws. Some ideas that were presented were having the nominations at the Christmas Party or the Awards Banquet to boost participation. It is felt that we need representation of the whole club in voting.

Nominations

President	Dick Carter
Secretary	Hillary Graham
Board of Directors	Sandy Holder, Peggy Eaton
Treasurer	Kathy Miller
Awards	Jennifer Voight
Vice President	Jennifer Voight

RIDE

We had an income of roughly \$5,000. 7 riders withdrew before the ride, 4 no-shows. 30 started the 50 miler, 15 started the 25 miler. 17 finished the 50, 10 finished the 25. 5 out of 10 showed for BC in the 225. 3 showed for BC in the 50.

Expenses	\$2,500
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We made somewhere between \$1,500 and \$2,500 (donations are still being added). We talked about keeping dogs on leashes at rides and a Horse Excellence Award at future rides.

Other ideas were:

- Put on fun rides.
- Have teams at the rides that get prizes for competing.

- Give awards to people who do both the fall and spring ride (boost participation).
- Collaborate with other ride managers in the club who might be willing to come together and develop a series of rides and those who complete all of them will be given a prize/award (much like the Fire Mountain Award that Jackie gives out to those who do DVE, TMT, EHSC)

- Elaine

THE BEGINNING OF THE END...

A friend gives you a horse...
 You build a small shelter...\$750
 You fence in a paddock...\$450
 Purchase small truck to haul hay...\$12,000
 Purchase a 2 horse trailer...\$2,800
 Purchase 2nd horse...\$2,500
 Build larger shelter with storage...\$2,000
 More fencing...\$1,200
 Purchase 3rd horse...\$3,000
 Purchase 4 horse trailer...\$17,500
 Purchase larger truck...\$23,000
 Purchase 4 acres next door...\$38,000
 More fencing...\$2,000
 Build small barn...\$18,000
 Purchase camper for truck...\$9,000
 Purchase tractor...\$23,000
 Purchase 4th & 5th horse...\$6,500
 Purchase 20 acres...\$285,000
 Build house...\$185,000
 Build barn...\$56,000
 More fencing & corrals...\$24,000
 Build covered arena...\$182,000
 Purchase Dually...\$44,000
 Purchase gooseneck w/living quarters...\$45,000
 Purchase 6th, 7th & 8th horse...\$10,750
 Hire full time trainer...\$50,000
 Build house for trainer...\$84,000
 Buy motor home for shows...\$125,000
 Hire attorney -- spouse leaving you for trainer...\$35,000
 Declare bankruptcy, spouse gets everything.
 Friend feels sorry for you...gives you a horse.....



Many people have sighed for the 'good old days' and regretted the 'passing of the horse,' but today, when only those who like horses own them, it is a far better time for horses.

-C.W. Anderson

THE PERFECT DAY - PART DEUX THE OPPORTUNITY

Endurance Ride Report FEI 160 km FEI ****

North American Endurance Championships

Fairhill MD October 16th 2005

By Dominique Freeman

The phone call that would start the adventure came late one afternoon at work. A familiar resonant voice on the end of the line – Stagg Newman, president of the AERC (American Endurance Ride Conference) and training partner from many years back in California was calling to say hello and ask if I was planning to go to the North American Championships in Maryland this year. As it is a long trip (5,000 miles from California to Maryland) I had already decided that Paris had done a great job this season (a 4th and a 12th in FEI 160 km and a 4th in a tough 120 km), and that time off before some Multidays at the end of November and December were the best recipe to prepare for our next FEI ride in February.

As I was to learn, Stagg had an altogether different proposal in mind. He and his horse Jayel Super are part of the USA East Time zone, one of 5 in the US along with US Central, Mountain, Pacific North and Pacific South. The NAEC was to include these 5 US time zones plus Canada East and Canada West, as the majority of international rides from Canada and the US had not been able to make it to Pinamar for the Pan American Games in Argentina earlier in April. This was also part of the demonstration ride schedule for selection to represent the US and Canada in the WEG in Aachen next year. USA East was the host of the Championships so they were allowed 18 riders and four alternates.

THE HORSE: The USA East selection long list included Stagg and Super in 24th place due to some shoeing problems and an abscess earlier in the year. Stagg felt the horse was strong but was unlikely to make the final cut. Would I be interested in riding Super for Britain? To put this offer in perspective, Super's record includes twelve completions (ten AERC plus two Pan American Championships, of which four of these rides were FEI *** rides), six first places finishes, five Best Conditions, two fourth place finishes in the 2001 and 2003 Pan Am Championships respectively, with team gold in the 2001 Pan Am. Super is also the first horse in the world to win first and BC at the Biltmore 160 km FEI *** three times and the first horse to win the Old Dominion 160 km three times (of which two of these completions he earned Best Condition). I remember the 2001 PAC finish clearly - Stagg could have taken 3rd but gallantly let his teammate finish ahead to receive a team medal.

Well, no pressure..... a good chance to try ggTrack (a horse monitoring device I am developing with Cambridge Design Partnership) and another opportunity to see if we can marry technology with good horsemanship for a solid international finish. Medal positions are only open to North American Citizens, but since the GB team I had organized for the Pan Ams in Vermont had collected the off continent "gold" in 2001 I was keen to repeat the experience. Stagg would act as Chef D'Equipe as Ellen Tully (Chef for Britain in 2001 in Vermont) was head of the ground jury for

the ride and so unavailable, Cheryl Newman as groom and Paulo Fasano DVM (part of my crew since 1997) would fly in as Team Vet. With an international caliber crew, and an international caliber horse – my only concern was not to do anything silly and finish the ride with a sound horse and a shot at best condition.

THE TRAIL: Ellen called me before the ride to warn me about the trail. It was deceptive, no large hills but rolling grassy gallops mixed with forest trail. The trail was canted and could be uneven for long periods, which had resulted in much lameness the year before. Also, the trail wandered in and out of the forest requiring close attention to ribbons as many times what appeared as long grassy gallops were interrupted by abrupt turns into the forest. Also many switch-backs on the forest trail underlined the need to really pay attention. To complicate matters, Maryland had been in a two-month drought, which was preceded the week before the ride with 7" of rain, lets add, "mud" to the equation, as well as the possibility of high humidity. Thus a technically challenging trail with a subtle dimension regarding balance and rhythm required to negotiate the uneven terrain.

PRE RACE: I arrived on the red-eye flight from San Francisco to Baltimore and drove the 60 or so miles from the airport to the ride site to meet Stagg. Cheryl and Paulo were to arrive later that day, from Atlanta and Sao Paulo Brasil, respectively. A quick orientation of the grounds, and it was up in the saddle for a warm up ride. The usual pre-occupation of whether my saddle would fit, checking that ggTrack was picking up the satellites and HR monitor was working and we set off for an hour's ride after a 20 minute session of flexing and counter flexing exercises at the walk. Fortunately Stagg has implemented a good dressage base and Super knew his stuff, we discussed our pre race warm up and found it to be exactly the same. We also laughed when we discovered the same reaction from fellow riders to our dressage –centric warm up. Supers' walk was much like Roger's - about 4.5 to 5 miles per hour, great working heart rates and really good recoveries. GgTrack was confirming the humidity and temperature readings given in the weather reports. The 64-bpm in 30 minutes criteria should not be a problem provided we rode a smart ride.

Stagg was a natural Chef D'Equipe and had the day's agenda set out and planned, meetings to attend, local arrangements set up, so all I had to do was focus n being the best competitor I could be. Paulo arrived from the overnight flight from Sao Paulo Brasil and Stagg and he attended the Chef D'Equipe and team Vet meeting that afternoon. There was much laughter when Paulo introduced himself as Paulo Fasano, from Basil vetting for the British Team, on an American horse – a true international adventure.

The opening festivities were grand, over 60 starters and wonderful team spirit. My local endurance club (Quick Silver

Endurance Riders) made up over 75% of the Pacific South team, and many friends from Pacific North had made the long journey. Needless to say there was much surprise, well wishes and some teasing about how I had managed such a piece of luck when we appeared on Super. Staggs reply – North Carolina (his home state) was a well-known British colony!

RACE DAY: Having closely watched the weather reports we had experienced rain all the way until the night before the ride, and race day (as promised by the internet!) arrived with a cloudless starry predawn night with a large full moon. Perfect conditions. Our goal for the race was simple – be the first British Rider to finish. The pre-ride vet in and weigh in had gone smoothly for the British team, but not so for some of the favorites in the Eastern Time zone. Stagg had indicated that I should pair up with Dinah Rojek and her horse Smokerise Phoenix for race day. Phoenix's canter was matched to Super's trot and Dinah is an experienced International Competitor. This was to be Dinah's last 160 km competition so we both had the same goal of a good finish.

The start was tame and we positioned ourselves in the group of about 15 riders in the lead. The rumor had circulated that Valerie and Danielle might try and leave the group in the dark and build a lead so riders formed a close phalanx and maintained a reasonable pace while keeping in sight of the leaders. The trail was incredibly well marked with yellow Glo sticks for the trail marking and blue Glo sticks for hazards. The first loop back into camp was entirely in the dark and was just over 17 miles (about 28 km). Super just seemed to float over the ground, headed into the vet check and was the first to recover with all A's on the card. Instructions from Stagg were to go out in the lead at a good pace and make the riders work to catch up. Sure enough a few miles out Betty Baker and Karen Kroon joined us and we continued at a reasonable pace. A group galloping at high speed passed us sometime later and Karen left with them. My thought was the pace was too rich for this early in the ride so Betty and I stayed together with Dinah who had caught up with us. Betty and I exchanged duties catching turns and monitoring ribbons. Arriving at the pit stop we were advised that the leaders were about 4 minutes ahead. We maintained pace and cleared second vet check (40 miles/64 km) with flying colors. Several horses had to represent.

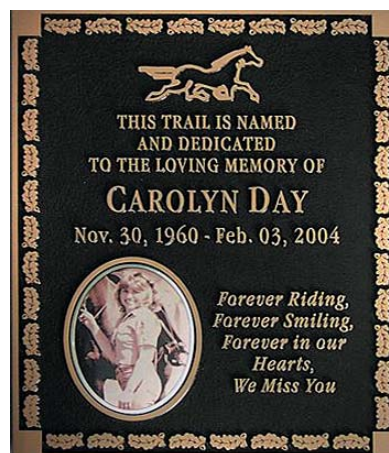
Loop three included some of the best scenery – we had crossed from Maryland into Pennsylvania, though some interesting "tunnels" and apparently bypassed the leaders who had not paid attention to ribbons and had gotten lost. Back at the vet check a 1 hour hold, Super looked "super" and we were relaxed in the lead group and 3 more loops to go, all back at base camp. We had a small margin of lead as the trail began to take its toll, and I was glad to be riding with experienced international competitors. Stagg had a plan for every loop seconded by Paulo's veterinary exam and we moved along like clockwork, through rivers, past cross country jumps and some very beautiful farm country. Our collective aim was to control the pace while staying ahead. This strategy worked for the next two legs and the pace was averaging at just over 9 miles an hour (14 km per

hour) with our three horses recovering within a minute of each other. By this time we had a 9-minute lead but as Betty informed us, riders that had a history of coming from behind with strong finishes were within striking distance.

News soon arrived that Danielle Kanavy had been pulled so we expected a strong challenge from Valery some time on the last loop. I made it clear to Betty and Karen that as an off continent competitor I was not eligible for a medal. I was under strict instructions not to race in as we knew we had a top three finish and plenty of horse. The last loop was to be in the dark, though a well marked trail and plenty of moonlight meant that we could keep a steady pace. Stagg (a mathematician by training) had reminded me that the horses behind would have to make up a minute a mile in time to catch us. Karen and I left the last loop together as Betty had elected to slow down.

THE FINISH: The finish was to be on the steeplechase course, and as we rounded the curve onto the course Super was feeling strong and continued to pull on the bit. Karen and I had not come to a conclusion about the finish after much discussion so I decided to see how she would play it. I made sure we had the inside of the rail but kept Super at a nice flowing canter. Karen made her break and my first instinct was to go with her as I had so much horse. However both Stagg and Paulo had made it clear that we did not want to race in, a 15 minute CRI and our goal of being first British rider was in the bag, and Super had left all the Eastern Time Zone behind – so I maintained our canter and enjoyed the sound of the long grass swishing, the full moon and the feeling of a job well done. Crossing the finish line with a huge crowd cheering a great looking horse, a happy Chef and Vet and a Gold Medal for Great Britain, and knowing I could ride to instructions made it another perfect day

MEMORIAL PLAQUE FOR CAROLYN DAY



I was unable to get exact information before press time, but thought this should be included. A forwarded email included the information that "Judy and Cindy" will be putting this plaque up this fall and having a dedication in the spring sometime. For more information, email: judyv@vom.com

LAKE SONOMA 2005

Better known as "The Hackamore Experiment"

Bev Senior and I arrived at the Lake Sonoma ride camp after traveling in the rain twice as long as need be, due to a blown trailer tire. We apparently ran over something, but didn't hear it. Fortunately I looked out the window at a passing car to see it's driver pointing at my rig. I looked back and could almost distinguish that the rain mist coming up off the road looked suspiciously like smoke. Pulling over to the side of the road on Hwy 101 is really not a great picture with as big a rig as mine, but we had no choice. A quick assessment of tools found us with pretty much nothing to take the spare tire off with. The lug nut wrench was too big, the socket set too small. So I whipped out my US Rider card. They are super nice people and I would highly recommend them to anyone! But they wouldn't be there for an hour. In the meantime, Karen called and gave us a bad time for not changing our own tire. Feeling like wusses, we went out and rummaged around again and found a crescent wrench. It fit, but the tire was held on with a locktight nut and neither one of us could get the darned thing to turn. Even though the lug wrench didn't fit on the end of the crescent wrench between the two of us we were able to hold it together enough to give Bev enough leverage to get the thing off.

Tired changed, we were on the road again, calling US Rider and cancelling their services. Unfortunately, the local tow driver didn't get the message and called us 20 minutes later wondering where the heck we were. Gone!

Ride camp was a sea of mud and I don't have 4-wheel drive. There had been chalk lines drawn in the gravel the day before for parking spots, but they were gone now. Our orders were to get it up the hill and park however we were able and everyone else would have to go up to the overflow parking lot a few minutes away. Somehow I managed to gun it up the hill and make a u-turn to try to at least park in some semblance of order. We didn't get much further than that before my truck said it'd had enough. "We camp here tonight" has been said many times by our fellow training buddy Liz Carey as we arrive at a trailhead to train, but today it was for real.

We awoke the next morning to a beautiful clear sky and a beautiful trail. The lake was partially covered in a cloudy mist and I would have loved to have taken pictures, but James needed "four hands" pretty much all day to ride and pictures just never happened. Lovely single-track trail on cliffs above the lake, the smell of all the luscious different kinds of tree leaves underfoot made for just the best stuff you can ride through. It was a little slick in the morning when we took off due to the rain the day before, but not bad if you just went slow.

Bev and I decided the same day of a training ride several weeks ago to show up with hackamores to try. Vulcan Mind Meld or something. Anyway, all training rides in our hacks went great and our horses seemed more relaxed and less spooky. We were proud of ourselves for our new-found discovery. After all, I've been riding Tank in an S-Hack for two years. What could be different? Our ride at Lake So-

noma started out well. We both had control, things were going great. But gradually over the first 45 minutes or so, things gradually fell apart, ending in Bev's mount literally just ignoring her and plowing off trail on a steep hairpin turn. By the time he was playing attention he turned so sharply, he threw her offbalance and she did this very slow-motion dump over the side onto a log. Fortunately, she was only a little dazed. But that left me leaping off James to get Cezanne out of the way for the riders coming down the hill behind us. Not much room, but we managed to do it.

We got several more turns down the road after remounting when I discovered that in my yanking on James to get him to stand still while I was holding both horses, had resulted in a broken strap that holds the bottom of the two shanks of his hack together. Oh well, I thought. However, I now KNOW why that strap is there as a couple more corners found me fighting for control over James when the hack turned inside out and then I had NO control. Fortunately, this is after surviving riding down the stair step section, which I'd forgotten about from last year until it was too late. I just kept my fingers crossed that James would make it down before killing me. He is not a fan of that type of terrain by a long shot. I managed to get him stopped after a couple of spins. Fortunately, there was a place to do that. If it had happened in the afternoon, I'd been out of luck. I had a snaffle with me and spent what seemed like forever getting it changed, since I alternating ever two seconds making the horse stand still and trying to fix the bridle. Bev finally had to go on as Cezanne was having a fit since we were getting passed by a lot of riders.

The first vet check is at the top of a long hill back at camp, and as last year, it took James awhile to settle at which point he dropped like a rock. Good. Back to the trailer for a few minutes to clear our brains!

With both horses back in snaffles, we hit the second stretch of trail to lunch. Ok, this is MUCH better. Relaxed horses, training ride atmosphere. We'll take it. We had a great time to lunch and our horses were in control, the trail was beautiful and as we trotted in and out of the curving switchback trails in the sun around the lake, we thought about how much fun it must be to be a front-runner, practicing lead changes around the corners and doing the big trot around the lake. Bev and I were by ourselves and we only saw a couple of other rides the whole time.

Lunch arrived with no adventures. James didn't seem particularly interested in his beet pulp or his hay, but did sample some left over next to us. He "seemed" a little tired. We started off walking for quite awhile out of lunch and were about halfway back, I think, when we were bombarded with a dozen riders behind us wanting around. End of relaxed afternoon. James became an idiot and if I would have just followed my own advice and that of Karen Chaton, who outta know by now :) ... I would have pulled over to the side of the trail and sat it out until James zipped his brains back in his head. But instead we kept on going. There were times

that Bev said she thought we were going over the side into the lake as James kept running his rear-end off the trail for some reason. I couldn't seem to stick a straight line or an even cadence and I felt like a novice on a rental string, bobbing left, right, forward, back. I have no idea what was up. No amount of pulling down to a walk and starting over again seemed to fix the situation. One time he almost zigged me into a one-foot diameter branch across the trail. I just barely had time to flatten myself on the saddle to avoid being knocked off. I finally did get him to walk some, but it was a running walk and he was pretty hot. Towards the end I got nothing but a parade prance in place all the way up to the overlook finish.

I would never have this type of ride on Tank because he takes care of himself and won't let you override him. It is apparent to me that there is a definite fine line between a fit horse and an adrenalin-rushed idiot the more I ride James. He is definitely not one you can count on to know if he's fit or just mentally frazzled. My assessment of the situation, is that James is fit enough to go faster if he's out in the middle of the pack by himself with no riding buddy and no other horses around and can concentrate on the job at hand. Or he needs to be ridden at the back of the pack by himself.

The keywords are BY HIMSELF. I believe his state of tiredness at the end of this ride, again this year, was due to the fact that he literally wore himself out mentally. It's something I am learning the hard way. But I can look back on the rides James and I have done and the proof is there. The rides where we've ridden alone and ridden our own ride, we had successful journeys. The ones where I was enjoying the company of a friend have all been disasters. Lesson learned is if I want to ride James, I ride alone. If I want to ride with friends, I ride Tank.

I would like to thank the Niehaus's for the great ride manager jobs they did and all their lovely volunteers. As usual, they put on a great ride and the fried chicken dinner was definitely finger-lickin' good!! This is one ride I could do every year and never get tired of it. But I think I'll bring a different horse next year.

– Jackie Floyd



.....

MEMBER PROFILE QUESTIONNAIRE

Name _____

Where do you live? _____

Horse(s) name(s) _____

How long have you been riding? _____ How long have you been doing endurance? _____

Where to you train? _____

What distances do you ride? (LD, 50, 100) _____ What are your career miles? _____

Are you a Decade Team Member? _____

What is your favorite ride and why? _____

What is your "claim to fame"? (I.e. endurance awards) _____

What are you goals? _____

Anything else you'd like to contribute about yourself (spouse, children, do they ride, what you do for a living, etc.) _____

Email the answers or cut out and send questionnaire to:

Jackie Floyd, P.O. Box 1045, Lodi, CA 95241

DON'T FORGET A PICTURE OF YOURSELF!

MANAGING A HOT-WIRED HORSE

by Karen Chaton

*The good news is that horses have a relatively large brain for an animal their size.
The bad news is that they use most of it just to keep their feet in the right place.*

Having read Jackie Floyd's ride story about her ride on James at Lake Sonoma this weekend, I thought I'd write a little bit about some of the things that I have learned over the years in dealing with horses that, like James, can get wired during a ride. Some horses, I have found, are more difficult to manage mentally than any other way. These horses are not impossible to manage, but it does require that we as riders must do whatever we have to in order to keep our horses calm, relaxed, and from getting into trouble.

The horse learns and remembers mainly the last thing that happens in an encounter or in training, so if you allow it to do something that you have not asked for, or if you allow it to avoid doing something you have asked, you have taught it to do just that. That's why I won't allow my horses to just 'go' at the start of the ride. Riding it out, does work for some people. I have found that once you let a horse have his way, then he will expect to get to do it again next time. Next time he's going to be a lot stronger and fitter, and you will just end up with even more of a handful.

Horses are herd animals, so they have a very strong desire to keep up with the horses ahead, or to catch them. One thing I have done often with my horses when getting them used to ride starts, is I will start out walking on foot. Sometimes we start after most of the horses have gone, other times right along with group so they get used to being in the 'pack'. You can't do that on every ride depending on what the trail is like. Sometimes having the first couple of miles go right sets up the rest of the day to go well, or to not go well. If my horse starts to get too excited or wound up even after I am on him, then I get off and will walk on foot until he calms down. I have found with more than one horse, when you do that often enough they quickly learn to relax and chill out so that you can get back on. Sometimes it also means walking for miles on foot.

One of the first things to check is your tack. Make sure everything fits and is comfortable for your horse. Especially your bit or whatever you use for control. If your horse is typically calm and relaxed on training rides then turns into a raving lunatic at a ride, then it's probably not a tack problem.

The next thing is your feed. I have a chart on my website here:

<http://members.tripod.com/ridephotos/molasses.html>

Some horses are more prone to excitability if they eat feed that is high in protein or high in molasses. I found out the hard way that some of the beet pulp I was feeding at the time had a high molasses content. It can vary from bag to bag even among the same mill. You can remove most of that sugar by soaking with plenty of water and draining it off until it runs clear. If you feed other feeds, try to find a

complete feed that has a low molasses content. I also try to avoid alfalfa hay before a ride. If you must feed it, try to mix it with grass so that your horse isn't getting a lot.

Once you get out on the trail, make sure you ride your own ride. That is the most important thing! If you are riding with somebody else, and your horse is mentally wired, then you are probably making things worse. You may need to ride alone. Again, it depends on the horse, some horses might be more relaxed with a buddy. Choose your riding partners carefully. Even if you like your friend, their horse and your horse might not be the best match. Some horses will feed their nervous excitement and energy off of each other. This can result in a metabolic problem later, or in a lameness because your horse isn't paying attention to where he is going and trips or stumbles. Don't be afraid to get off and walk on foot if your horse is not calming down. Stop and graze. Stay in the vet check a few extra minutes. You are better off to not finish a ride by being over time, than you are to keep going with a horse that is wound up, and ends up compromised and either in trouble or goes home tired and with a bad memory of the whole event.

Last weekend at High Desert, I rode my youngest horse for the first time in a 50. Near the end of the ride I separated from the group I had been riding with all day, three other horses. He squawked and had a little bit of a tantrum when I did that. I did that intentionally – they were trotting thru deep sand, and I preferred not to. I also wanted my horse to know that he is with me, and not them. He actually did very well with that and it was nice to be able to finish the last few miles knowing I was riding my own ride.

MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT MASTER PLAN WORK SHOPS

MROPS held a second public workshop in October for the Sierra Azul/Bear Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserves. The workshop featured information on the challenges and opportunities for resource protection, land stewardship and public access. You can visit their project website to view the latest project information, peruse notes and input from the last workshop, or leave comments at: www.openspace.org/masterplan. A Frequently Asked Questions and Answers sheet and the date and time for the next workshop will be posted on the project website in the following weeks. Questions/comments can be directed to Ana Ruiz, Project Planner, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, 330 Distel Circle, Los Altos, CA 94022. (650) 691-1200, masterplan@openspace.org

IN MEMORY

CHARLIE BARRIEAU 1916 - 2005

A celebration of Charlie Barieau's life was held at the Auburn Fairgrounds on Saturday, October 15th. Charlie died on September 5th after a lengthy battle with Parkinson's Disease. Not only was Charlie a founding member of AERC, he was also inducted into the AERC Hall of Fame in 1988.

Although he was a horseman who traveled miles over the Sierra in the saddle himself, he is most remembered for his photography. Charlie was there to document Wendell Robie and his pioneering friends on that historic first 100-mile 24-hour trek over the Sierra in 1955. He continued on with his photography, and he is especially known for all of his pictures of riders negotiating Cougar Rock, which he generously shared with his friends and later charged about a dollar to purchase.

A fiercely independent man, who enjoyed a bachelor's life and the freedom that goes with it, Charlie would pop up in unusual places, take it all in, and disappear again when the spirit moved him. His memorial service was a pot luck, and it was attended by many of the earliest riders in our sport, including QS members Hugh, Gloria, Doug, and Barbara. People brought their favorite photos he had taken to share and reminisce over (we were all so young!), and Tevis Cup Ride vet cards from decades back were there to be picked up. Potato Richardson spoke on the stage and invited others to share their Charlie stories, all of which were filled with humor and much affection. Marion Robie, Kathie Perry, Phil Gardner, Richard Barsaleau, Cliff Lewis, Gordy Ainsleigh, and on and on. It was like a Who's Who of the early days of our sport, sharing laughter and tears as old stories were told.

We all agreed that a fitting memorial would be to officially name a special place on the Western States Trail after him. A group of people are working on this plan, and you may hear more about it later. To quote the program that was handed out at his service, "And so we salute you, Charlie Barieau, and send you heartfelt thanks. You added depth and dimension to our lives, capturing those special moments of horse and rider traveling as one over the mountains. You kept the rich history of the Tevis, the Run, the Western States Trail, and our Sierra heritage alive and vibrant. Happy Trails, Charlie..."

– Barbara White

BILL EVANS MEMORIAL

Bill Evans' memorial service was held October 12th outdoors at the Radonich Ranch at the end of Summit Road in the Santa Cruz Mountains. People shared stories of Bill. Curly Fletcher's grandson sang his grandfather's famous song the *The Strawberry Roan*. (I think that is the name of it).

Chris Smith and Elisabet Hiatt also sang some of Bill's favorite songs. They were very good. Elisabet has a beau-

tiful voice. I have known her for years in the club and never knew she could sing and play the guitar.

A lot of Bill's friends were there, some from as far away as Nevada. His son Flint from the Bay Area and his son, Lance, who is a lawyer in Tennessee also attended. I met four of his grandchildren including sisters, Ashley and Alicia. Ashley is in her third year at San Diego State and Alicia is a marine and just graduated from Annapolis. Julie Suhr told a funny story about how Bill went to her graduation from Annapolis and wore his bib overalls.

They released a flock of white doves and after a potluck lunch we all headed home. We will miss Bill.

– Merryben Stover

ADA CARR 1934-2005

Ada Carr, wife of Les Carr, passed away October 14th at 4:30 p.m. PST after a very short bout with cancer. Les talked constantly about his wife and family while we rode together and it was clear that Ada meant the world to him.

Les and I had talked many times about Jim and I traveling the short distance to Somerset to meet Ada who was a professional gourmet chef and a respected artist. But we never could seem to find the time to arrange it. She and her daughter had been commissioned to have a mother-daughter art showing in New York in September before the onslaught of Ada's cancer. Besides Tulip, Les and Ada also had a pair of Icelandics and loved to pleasure ride together.

– Jackie Floyd

LAZO

We all grieve when we lose a beloved animal, but few of us can pay tribute in as eloquent a manner as Quicksilver member Elisabet Hiatt. 10/26/05 –Julie

Today, Lazo's journey on this earth came to an end. After 25 years of receiving his unconditional love, I had to let him go. He was a gentle soul to the end.

He taught me patience and gave me joy. He was a source of rest and relief. He kept me sane through some tough times and forced me to laugh at myself often. I saw some of the most beautiful country from his back and I am a better person because of him.

I can't begin to count the number of children that got their first ride on him, or the adults, who after that awful first experience on a rented horse, decided that riding was fun after all, because of him.

My first horse, a childhood dream, named after a broomstick I used to ride when I was four. He will always have a special place in my heart and although I can no longer see him with my eyes, he's really not gone. Come along, Lazo, we're going on a ride!

OLLIE

Melissa and Robert Ribley lost their little endurance Pug Ollie last week. He will be sorely missed around ride camp.

CASA GRANDE- NEW ALMADEN

Many California towns had their "Casa Grandes," but few were more imposing than the mansion designed by Gen. Henry Wager Halleck, California's first secretary of state, for New Almaden Mine. It is living proof of the forgotten hamlet's past glory.

The Almaden road narrows to a country lane where the large, handsome house stands, marking the entrance to the old mine's hacienda. The early days of the structure, reminiscent of a colonial manor house, are as interesting as the remarkable man who built it.

When Capt. Halleck assumed his duties as general manager of the New Almaden quicksilver mine in 1850, he found it a primitive Mexican-style mining camp. The brilliant West Point soldier took immediate steps to organize an efficient operation. Halleck visited the mine every two weeks, traveling back and forth from the office in San Francisco he shared with his law partners, Archibald Peachy and Frederick Billings. Work was begun on Casa Grande shortly after September 1852. Architect Francis Meyers designed the stately three-story, 27-room building. The fortress like foundations, 2-foot-thick unadorned brick walls, and sheltered veranda with its slender wooden columns are typical of 1850s Italianate architecture.

In 1854, Halleck resigned from the Army and returned to his native state of New York to become engaged to Elizabeth Hamilton, sister of his former West Point roommate Schuyler Hamilton. Following the wedding held at the Manhattan Island estate that had once belonged to Elizabeth's grandfather, Alexander Hamilton, the Hallecks returned to San Francisco, where they made their home on fashionable Rincon Hill.

After the outbreak of the Civil War, Halleck, who had distinguished himself by "gallant conduct" in the Mexican War, was commissioned major general in the Army. Halleck visited New Almaden occasionally after his return to San Francisco from the Civil War. The mine was then in the hands of the Quicksilver Mining Co. with the former company president, Samuel F. Butterworth, acting as general agent and manager.

Butterworth and his wife, Mary, lived at Casa Grande for two years in the mid-1860s and then moved to San Francisco, where their two daughters were noted "society belles" of their day.

When Samuel Butterworth decided to retire in 1870, he recommended his nephew, James Butterworth Randol, to succeed him as general manager at New Almaden. The young New Yorker, who had been secretary of the Quicksilver Mining Co. since its incorporation, brought the then declining mine back to reach its peak production; in 1887, it paid over \$1 million in dividends to its stockholders.

Under Randol's strict supervision, the village became a model town. Roadways and cottages were kept trim and newly painted, enhanced with cuttings from Casa Grande's five-acre garden.

Randol also enhanced the already imposing appearance of Casa Grande. Extensive landscaping was done and the diverting of Los Alamitos Creek made a large private lake on the property. But evidently his wife, Christina, was never happy at New Almaden. Longing for her family and friends in the East, in 1887 she left the mine. Hoping to lure Christina and their five children back to New Almaden, in 1888 Randol did a major remodeling of the mansion, putting in a gymnasium for his sons William and Frederick and enlarging the nursery for the younger children. His family occupied Casa Grande until Randol retired in 1892.

Former company cashier Robert R. Bulmore then took over as general agent and moved his family into Casa Grande, where they remained until the turn of the century, when the cinnabar was thought to have been nearly mined out. When the company declared bankruptcy in 1912, Casa Grande was abandoned and, for the next several years, sat empty.

In the 1920s and 1930s the once-stately mansion was used as a roadhouse hotel. A variety of enterprises were attempted, most recently a melodrama theater. Today Casa Grande – designated a National Historic Site – has been partially restored as a museum and visitors center to the Almaden Quicksilver County Park on Mine Hill.

Phyllis Butler is a Menlo Park writer and editor. Contact her at ffelicia@pacbell.net or phyllisbutler.com
Contributed by Julie Suhr



Quicksilver members Jennifer Kurtzhall and Bing Voight at the High Desert Classic II and III held October 22-23.

Photo by Karen Chaton

CLASSIFIED

SADDLES & TACK FOR SALE

17.5" GORGEOUS ORTHO-FLEX STITCHDOWN for sale. System II Panels, \$1,700, Excellent condition. The Stitchdown features an anatomically correct seat, covered w/ top-grain upholstery leather. A three-position stirrup hanger allows leg positions from dressage to moderate jumping. This saddle is so incredibly comfortable, but the flaps are too long for my short legs. Package incl: fleece booties (like new), Orthoflex neoprene girth, "EZ out" safety stirrups, and Orthoflex leathers. This package is WELL worth over \$3000 new! If you're looking for a comfortable trail saddle that fits your horse, this is the one. Julieanne Rha 925-708-2388 jsrha@yahoo.com. Located in Pacifica. [11-05]

SHARON SAARE 15-in., CC tree. Well-used, well cared for; no longer fits my horses. \$500, has fittings. Jill 650-949-0330. [10-05]

WANTED

Looking for a gray Arab gelding, no older than 3, for endurance and trail riding. Not that interested in papers, just looking for a solid horse. Elisabet Hiatt - (831) 335-3223 or lazo@ucsc.edu

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. [12-05]

STALLION SERVICES

Introducing CF SORCERER - now standing at stud. Sire of TBR Granite Chief+, 2004-2005 AERC National Mileage Champion and 2004 XP Horse of the Year. Visit his website at [http://www.spanisharabian.net/](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 [1-06]

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. [01-06]

ROOM FOR RENT in Trilby's barn near Almaden Quicksilver Park – now you can live with your horse :) \$450. Call 408 997-7500 for more information. [01-06]

FOR SALE MISCELLANEOUS

SUPPLEMENTS/HOOF PROTECTION. Wild Eye Arabians is now supplying FASTRACK Probiotics (paste & powder) HOOOF -IT Pour in Pads, Kentucky Equine Research products, ENDURAMAX Electrolites (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. [11-05]

COMPLEXION PROTECTION Lots of lovely moisturizing and sun protection available for all you outdoor 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—Judith. [11-05]

FOR SALE DESCRIPTIONS

Big Trot: Can't canter within a 2 mile straightaway.

Nicely Started: We can lounge him, but we don't have enough insurance to ride him yet.

Top Show Horse: Won a reserve championship 5 years ago at a show with unusual low entries due to a hurricane.

Home Bred: Knows nothing except being raised on the front porch.

Recently Vetted: Someone else found something badly wrong with the horse.

Big Boned: Good thing horse has mane & tail or he would be mistaken for a cow.

Doing Courses: When tranquilized to the eyeballs & lunged 6 hrs straight before hand.

Well Mannered: Hasn't stepped on, bitten, or kicked anyone for a week.

Professionally Trained: Hasn't stepped, bitten, or kicked anyone for a month.

Should Mature 16 Hands: Currently 13h, dam is 14.3hh,

sire is 15hh, every horse in pedigree back 18 generations is under 15h but this horse will definitely defy his DNA.

To Good Home Only: Not really for sale unless you can 1) pay twice what he is worth, 2) allow current owner to tuck in beddy-bye every night, 3) are willing to sign a 10 page legal document.

Bold: Runaway.

Athletic: He's a runaway, but he looks good doing it.

Needs intermediate Rider: Runaway.

Needs Experienced Rider: "Dead" runaway.

Dead Quiet: Just dead.

Started O/F: Started overfeeding because we can't ride.

No Vices: Especially when he wears his muzzle.

Light Cribber: We can't afford to build any more barns & fences for the buzz saw.

No Time For Him: He's lucky to be fed.

Excellent Disposition: Never been out of his stall.

Clips, hauls, and Loads: Clippity, clippity is the sound his hooves make when he hauls a\$\$ across the parking lot when you try to load him.

Great Halter Prospect: Bred for beauty, not for brains.

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



Quicksilver Endurance Riders, Inc.

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