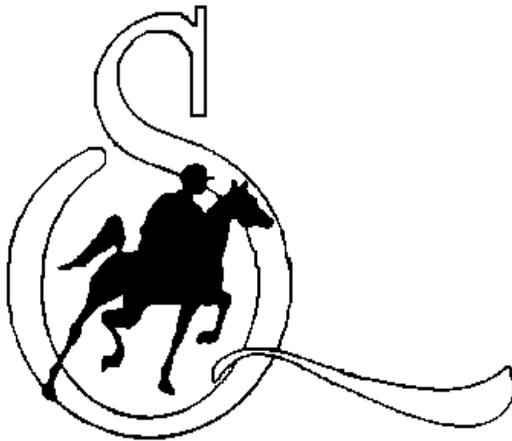


QUICKSILVER QUIPS

MAY 2003



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Secretary ???
Treasurer Kathy Miller

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

May 2003

Can you believe it is still raining? They do say April showers bring May flowers. I went riding at Coe Park this last weekend and the flowers were beautiful. There is so much grass and water everywhere that it was almost hard to keep the horses moving. They just wanted to graze. Our Spring Ride is coming up fast (May 17th). I hope everyone is planning to come to ride or to help.

Those of you who were not able to attend our April meeting missed out on a great presentation by Michael Newburn. He had a Power Point presentation of Midpeninsula Open Space District with their beautiful trails and scenery. He also brought maps of all the parks. I was so inspired that I went riding at Rancho San Antonio for the first time and really enjoyed it.

Jill Kilty-Newburn is our Fall Ride manager. The ride is already sanctioned for October 4th. It will be staged at Calero County Park and the trails will include Calero and Quicksilver County Parks. The course will be similar to our 2002 Spring Ride. Jill is really on top of things and should have entries ready to distribute at the Spring Ride.

Our next general meeting will be on May 21st. Instead of having a speaker we decided to dedicate this meeting to wrapping up the Spring Ride.

Lori

APRIL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM.

Reports

Treasurer

Checking Account

Beginning balance	\$ 4,511.47
Deposits	332.54
Checks written	<u>615.44</u>
Ending balance	4,228.57
Trails account	902.94
Junior	771.28

Goodwill--A card was sent to Rich Vargas giving him our best wishes for a fast recovery from his illness.

Trails—Lori attended a Santa Clara County Park Public Workshop Steering Committee Meeting. She reported that no new trails are planned for Calero Park. The new acquisition adjacent to the park is still in escrow and should be closing soon. When the purchase is complete, part of the trails on the property will be available for use.

The new Bear Ranch-Coyote Lake Park was discussed; opening trails will be the first priority of the plan when funds become available.

There will be a meeting on April 28 regarding dams in Coe State Park. *NOTE: that meeting has been postponed until June, no date yet, will put it on the QSER website.*

Ride—The State Fish and Game Department have agreed to the use of the Stevenson Ranch as the staging area for the Spring Ride. Discussion about ride entry fees resulted in the decision to charge \$100.00 for the 50 mile ride and \$90.00 for the 25. Entries must be postmarked by May 10, 2003.

There will be no poker ride or midnight ride this year.

There will be no program for the May meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.
Submitted by Kathy Miller, acting as secretary.

General Meeting

Mid Peninsula Open Space District (MROSD) Managing Ranger and QS member, Mike Newburn made an interesting presentation about the attractions of the District and its trails.

Trail and other news

Don't forget to check out the third annual Western States Horse Summit being held in conjunction with the Western States Horse Expo, May 30-June 1 at the Cal Expo in Sacramento.

There will be continuous speakers and exhibits on all three days from 10:00 AM-5:00 PM. The entry fee to the Expo includes attendance at the Summit.

The purpose of the Western States Horse Summit is to inform, educate and distribute research data and information to ensure the continued use and expansion of multi-use trails by equestrians.

On Friday morning there will be a panel of representatives from our National, State, County and Local Parks. The main topic is

"Will our parks be closed during the fire season?" The speakers will also update us on trail closures and any new park rule changes.

This panel will provide an excellent opportunity for frequent trail users like ourselves to learn about their concerns and to give some input—hope to see some of you there!

Saturday and Sunday mornings there will be a panel of National, State and local horse organizations discussing current problems facing the equestrian industry. Friday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons there will be presentations on "Environmental Aspects of Horses on Trails", "Horse Camping", "Water Quality and Horse Management", and "Getting You and Your Horse Ready for the Trails."

The agenda and list of speakers can be found on the www.horseexpo.com web page.

West Nile Virus Symptoms

I have attended several meetings at which veterinarians spoke about WNV but didn't really get a clear picture of the all of symptoms until I read an article the Western Times by Bonny Davis. Here a few new-to-me ones.

WNV Symptoms from a report by Dr. Robert J. McKay, University of Florida.

Muzzle Tremors—the muzzle will twitch sometimes for hours or days. There will be no

apparent reason, no flies. Just a constant twitch with or without a temperature.

Changed Behavior—depression is common. Hyper-responsiveness such as flinging around a stall, anxiousness and sweating may occur.

Tongue Paralysis—the tongue may lop out and the horse can't get it back in.

Editor's column

So far this wet spring has caused two endurance rides, two competitive trail rides, a ride and tie and a poker ride to be cancelled or postponed. QSERs like Jan Jeffers and Robert Ribley who went south to the Hog Wild 2-day ride lucked out! On the other hand, just look at all that green grass.

Want Ads

Maryben has a nice 13 year-old purebred Arab mare for sale for \$3,500. She is great on trails and would be good for a fairly novice rider. She is fleabitten gray, 14.2 or 3 and has very good ground manners. Call Maryben at 408 265-0839 or e-mail her at merryben@aol.com.

Seven Arabs for Sale, ages 7-16, mares & geldings. Most are proven endurance horses, all levels of training, grays, chestnuts, and a black, prices \$1,000-\$6,000. Call Heather Reynolds at 408 778-6957.

Mike Tracy is selling his Boz saddle with 3 extra panels for \$650. Call him at 831-636-8000 for more information.

Coaching Available Do you have questions about electrolytes, conditioning, pacing; your first endurance ride, first 100 or riding in general? Or do you need a horse conditioned and prepared for its first ride or next ride? Call Heather Reynolds at 408 778-6957. *Mmm, tempting*☺

Volunteers Wanted

Here is your chance to have a lot of fun and help (or harass) Marvin as he journeys to his third buckle on the Western States 100 Mile Endurance RUN, June 28th. Bring your endurance, but leave your horse at home. QSER Barbara White is looking for volunteers for the Dusty Corners Aid Station (Mile 50 on the Tevis). Contact her at (530) 458-2443 or barbdoug@syix.com.

More volunteers wanted

I am sure that Scott needs help for the Quicksilver Spring Classic at Coe Park on May 17 so give him a call at 408 268-7902 or e-mail him at Sansom@sbcglobal.net.

Member news

Bob and Peggy get Married!

Bob Eaton and Peggy Bullock will tie the knot on May 3 in Carmel Valley at Bob's ranch. Their honeymoon will be spent at Pt. Reyes and Fort Bragg with their LQ and horses—gotta keep those horses conditioned! *First things first*☺

Call us Crazy

Endurance rider, Judith Ogus is now performing in a trio called, what else, Call Us Crazy. The show includes sensational songs, slapstick spoken word, and harp like you've never heard, fine art & popping percussion – themes ranging from the sublime to the absurd. Performers are Verlene Schermer, singer-songwriter and harpist; Judith Ogus, poet and artist and Lesley Schneider, percussionist. You can see them and Judith's visual art next at the Cayuga Vault in Santa Cruz on May 17th at 8:00 pm. Tickets are \$10 and are available at the door. For more information, call 408 997 0814, e-mail randomartts@earthlink.net. Cayuga Vault is located at 1100 Soquel Ave. and Cayuga Streets. This is a great show everybody – lots of fun – so please come and bring your friends!

3/29 SASO RAT Results

The Shine and Shine Only Ride & Tie was the third race in a four race series held at Almaden Quicksilver County Park. On the 22 mile course, Curt Riffle, Doyle Egger and Majik barely out-gunned Rufus Schneider, Anne Langestaff and Justin who traveled 500 miles from the San Diego area. Our own Cheryl Domnitch and Mocha Brown introduced a new person, Sabrina Teller, to the sport and finished a very respectable 7th, pro-am. Majik, the 11 year-old half-Arab, half-Standardbred "Kid" that was rescued from the slaughterhouse by Skip Lightfoot two years ago, won the BC award and the coveted bouquet of carrots. Hillorie Bachman served as race day manager, vet check chief and host to several guests from

Ariat who came to check out our sport.
Thanks to Curt Riffle for sending this info.

Marvin's Corner

A Philosophy Lesson

A philosophy professor stood before his class with some items in front of him. When the class began, he wordlessly picked up a very large, empty glass jar and proceeded to fill it with rocks about 2 inches in diameter.

He then asked the students if the jar was full? They agreed that it was.

So the professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles of course rolled into the open spaces between the rocks.

He then asked the students again if the jar was full? They agreed that it was.

The professor picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up the rest of the spaces.

He then asked once more if the jar was full? The students responded with a unanimous yes

The professor then produced two cans of beer from under the table and proceeded to pour their entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.

"Now," said the professor, as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that his jar represents your life. The rocks are the important things – your family, your partner, your health, and your children – things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house, and your car. The sand is everything else – the small stuff. If you put the sand into the jar first, then there is no room for the pebbles or the rocks. The same goes for your life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your partner out dancing. There will always be time to go to work, clean the house, give a dinner party and fix the disposal. Take care of the rocks first – the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand".

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the beer represented.

The professor smiled. "I am glad that you asked. It just goes to show that no matter how

full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of beers."

Found this on a competitive trail-riding list--at last an explanation of why Arabs spook☺

Arab Glasses

*I had never owned an Arab
No one told me it would be this way
How can the exact same horse
Be different every day?*

*While searching for the answer
and taking all the classes
I developed a new device
I call them "arab" glasses.*

*With my new specs it all was clear
(though I looked like Harry Potter)
that there are boogie monsters and trolls
hiding in that stream of water.*

*And imagine my surprise
When on the cows we were waitin'
To see that these slow beasts
Actually carry the mark of SATAN!!!*

*Trash cans, cars, tarps, and flags
Just scare my guy to death
And now I see their horse eating intentions
Through my new "arab specs".*

*Next it was time for the trip to town
I'm so proud of my new trailer,
Yup, you guessed it-now I see
It holds a 12 foot alligator.*

*I left my glasses on for the drive
Right down the interstate
Now I know that 18 wheelers
Have teeth in their front grate.*

*So friends, take heart, the problem is not
That your horse is desert bred
My new device will show that spooks and
monsters aren't all in your horse's head.*

*So as I go, I'm taking these glasses
And removing all the smudges
You see we go to Decatur in a few short
weeks and I'm giving them to the judges!*

**Thanks to author, Cheryl Middlebrooks from
A Horse Named Kate**

By Jeri Ayers-Scott

Not many people know that I ever owned a second horse. Everyone knew about Pistol. And Pistol was my soul mate. Kate was... well, it is hard to describe the relationship that Kate and I had. She allowed me to take care of her. That was as good as it ever got. Kate and I never bonded. I wanted to bond with her but at best our relationship was one of putting up with each other. And a lot of the time we were totally annoyed with each other.

She was a good horse and well trained as long as all you wanted to do was go around an arena. I took some classes on her and found out that she was well trained and smart. She was a beautiful horse, half Arab and half Tennessee Walker. She was the smoothest horse I've ever ridden. However I like to trail ride and was not reliable on the trail. In fact unless I was riding with someone else so she had horse company I couldn't even get her out on the trail.

I knew Kate could bond. I had seen her with her previous owner who had raised her from a tiny foal. When her previous owner brought her to the ranch and left her after a tearful goodbye Kate was beside herself. Nothing consoled her and she was a handful to work with. I had her in a paddock so she and I could get used to each other. I didn't want to chase her down in the pasture. When that didn't work I decided to turn her loose in the same pasture I had Pistol in with him and several other horses.

I was worried since as far as I knew she had never been in a large pasture with other horses before. She took to the situation immediately and within minutes she had rounded up the mares into a group and proceeded to defend them against the geldings. Whereas before the mares and geldings formed one herd, now there were two herds with Kate running the show.

Kate did seem happier after she was turned out in the pasture. She was calmer when I worked with her. But for the entire time I owned her she remained aloof to me and her behavior was that of a wild, impossible child. Within a few months of buying her I wanted to sell her. Yet somehow I never got to the point of actually doing it. It was always "next month I am selling this horse", but next month never came. Why I don't know. I questioned my sanity for keeping a horse that had not worked out for me, a horse that I was afraid to ride on the trail. A horse that refused to even go out on the trail alone. A horse that I was not bonded with and didn't even particularly like, and

Tyler, Texas.

that didn't particularly like me. What was it that kept me from selling her? I didn't know.

Seven years after I bought Kate I finally made a firm decision to sell her as long as I could find her a good home. That same day I received a phone call. It was Kate's original owner. She had recently gotten a divorce and had started thinking about when she had owned Kate and wondered if I still owned her. And she wanted to know if she could see Kate. I told her that she could certainly see Kate but it would have to be soon because I had finally made a firm decision to sell her. We set up a meeting. I went out to the ranch early so I could groom Kate and have her looking her best. Secretly I was hoping her original owner would want to buy her back from me.

When Kandi arrived Kate was tied to a tree. I was sitting nearby. Kandi spotted Kate and started walking slowly towards her. Kate stood and watched Kandi as if mesmerized. Then Kate made a funny little soft nicker of recognition. Kandi put her arms around Kate's neck and Kate dropped her head down on Kandi's shoulder and there they stood for the longest time just loving each other. Kate remembered Kandi and showed me a side of herself that I had never seen during the seven years I had owned her.

Eventually Kandi started speaking softly. I'm not sure if to me or to Kate and explained that she never wanted to sell Kate. She had owned Kate since she was a new born foal. However her husband hated the horse and she had to make a choice. The husband or the horse. She should have kept the horse and gotten rid of the husband. Now she was divorced, she had no husband, no children, no money and no home. She was living with her parents temporarily. She wanted to buy Kate back from me but had no money.

As I watched Kate and Kandi together I understood a lot of things. The powers that be, forces beyond my understanding, had given me Kate to take care of for Kandi during a time when Kandi could not take care of her. As I watched Kate and Kandi together we both cried. The depth of love that Kate and Kandi had for each other, even after seven years apart, was undeniable. Although I had paid a fancy price for Kate I did the only thing I could do. Right there on the spot I gave Kate back to Kandi.

A few days later Kandi came out to the ranch with a trailer to pick Kate up. To make it legal I sold Kate to Kandi for a dollar. I have the dollar and a copy of bill of sale in a scrap book next to a great picture of the two of them together. They are both smiling. Yes, horses can smile. Whenever

May 2003 Quicksilver quips

I think of Kate I think of all the years that we put up with each other. I think of how every month I wanted to sell Kate and yet didn't. Couldn't. Something I could not understand held me back.

And I think of Kate and Kandi together again, and happy, so very happy. And when I do I smile. I smile and understand.

2003 MAY Rides

Date	Region	Ride Name	Distance	Manager	Phone #
05/10	PS	Californios Lite	30/50	Vern Biehl	661-724-1060
05/17	W	Quicksilver Spring Classic	25/50	Scott Sansom	408-268-7902
05/17-18	W	Land of the Neversweats	25/55/ 2-day 100	Rosalee Bradley	530-253-2265
05/23-24 25	W	Wild West I, II, III Pioneer	30/50 35/50-30/50 2-day 100	Robert Ribley	530-268-1378
05/31	W	Wine Country	30/50	Jessica Tuteur	707-258-1937

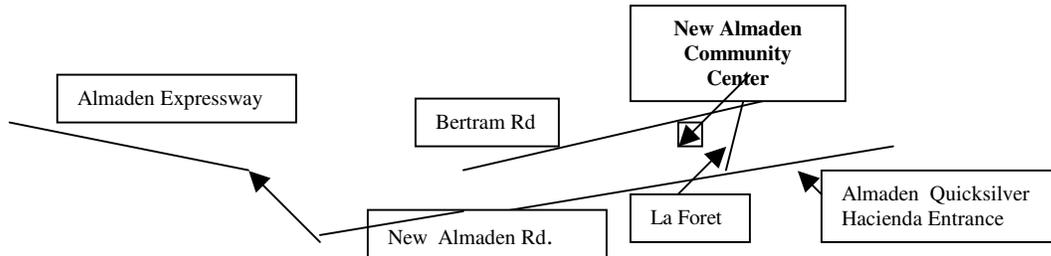
MAY Meeting

Wednesday May 21 at 7:30 PM

New Almaden Community Center, Bertram Road, San Jose

(just behind La Foret Restaurant)

The Board Meeting begins at 6:30 PM. All members are welcome to attend.



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