

# Quicksilver Quips

APRIL 2023



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## Officers

2023 Board members are

Jerry Wittenauer - President  
Magda Bartilsson - VP  
Nick Warhol - Treasurer  
Elaine Elbizri - Secretary  
Carloyn Tucker - Board  
Rachel Miura - Membership  
Magda Bartilsson - Board  
Brian Reeves- Board

## Newsletter Editor

Elisabet Hiatt [lazo@ucsc.edu](mailto:lazo@ucsc.edu)

QSER on the Web:  
<http://www.qser.net/>

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jerry Wittenauer

28 Mar 2023

### *Slogging Through the Weeks!*

It takes a large measure of stick-to-it'dness (aka "Perseverance") to find a safe trail on the right day to maintain any sort of training rhythm in these wet and windy times. Distractions at home like fallen trees, blown-over fencing, and multi-day power outages can intrude on your training time. I'm getting favorable ride and training reports that many of our Quicksilver riders are "figuring it out" – Quicksilver Strong! Three things have kept Carlos & I going this winter:

- Hand walking or jogging with Carlos for 3-4 miles on the really wet days. It's a fun and bonding time to jog with your horse, and Carlos tends to dash to the next grazing spot where I can catch my breath for a minute while he munches.
- Having that short list of "all-weather" training spots that you can ride safely when everything else has turned into a mud hole. We even have a 1-mile stretch of solid fire road in a local park where we do back & forths to accumulate the miles!
- Keep entering Endurance Rides! Between a week of ramping down for the event, and a week off post-event, it takes the pressure off of trying to find training days.

Of course, it has been months since we could visit some of our favorite parks and open spaces and ride single-track trail through the forest. In some cases, it will take months more of dry weather for the land managers to restore the trails and clear the downed trees. But Endurance folks will figure it all out – our urge to ride is too great to just sit around and mope!

### **Club News:**

All Club members are welcome to join in on the QSER Board Meetings, held via ZOOM on the third Wednesday of each month. Please contact me in advance for a link to the meeting!

A Big THANKS to everyone that jumped in and renewed your QSER Membership! Through March, we are up to about 80% of our members that have renewed their membership for 2023 – please go to the link on our website and **renew today!**

Best wishes to you all for a safe and productive year with your equine partners!

Submitted by Janice Frazier:



## Countywide Trails Master Plan Map Update 2023

The Countywide Trails Master Plan envisions a comprehensive network of trails of countywide significance across Santa Clara County. County Parks is working to update the Master Plan Map to better reflect current planning and changes to the countywide trail network.

Unfortunately, there is a lot of information to look at, and not enough space in the Quips. For more information, learn about the proposed map changes, explore the interactive draft map, read the frequently asked questions and take a survey, please go to:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/8e74f2d3538a4645b16816196d6090e2/page/Page/>  
Feedback is due by April 30, 2023.

Hi everyone- I added the **2021 club directory** to the "members only" page on the web site. From the web site click on the "Members only" button.

There is a button to download the directory in PDF format. If anyone has any content, or any ideas for what they would like to see on the website please let me know.

Thanks, **Nick**

### 2023 QSER Club Calendar

18 Jan - Election of 2023 Officers  
4 Feb QSER Banquet  
23/24 Feb AERC Convention (Jacksonville)  
8 Jul QS Support to Fireworks Ride  
11 Jul "Go Live" for QS Ride Entries  
29 Jul QS Support to Tevis Cup – Finish Line Team

xx Aug QS Camping at Santa Cruz Horsemen's  
10 Sep Kick-off Board Search Committee.  
30 Sept QS Fall Classic Endurance Ride  
15 Nov All Awards Nominations Due  
18 Jan Election of **2024** Officers

**From Beverley Kane:** Dear QSER Friends,

Our Webb Ranch Library needs donations of equine- and equestrian-related books, DVDs, and magazines, especially back issues of the San Mateo County Horseman. (Magazines are given away free.)

Genres include, but are not limited to, Riding, Horse Care, Horse Training, General and Natural Horsemanship, Fiction, History, Memoir, Veterinary Medicine, Psychology & Spirituality, Equine-Assisted Learning & Therapy, Breeds.

Please e-mail or txt me to arrange delivery or pick up.

Thank you!

Beverley Kane

650-868-3379 --- bkane1@stanford.edu

Hi Qser's, need a driver or crew for American River Ride? **Michelle Herrera**. is available for the April 21st weekend. Please call 916.521.0164 or email [montra7003@sbcglobal.net](mailto:montra7003@sbcglobal.net) Looking forward to seeing club members at ridecamp!

**Fom Pat McAndrews:**

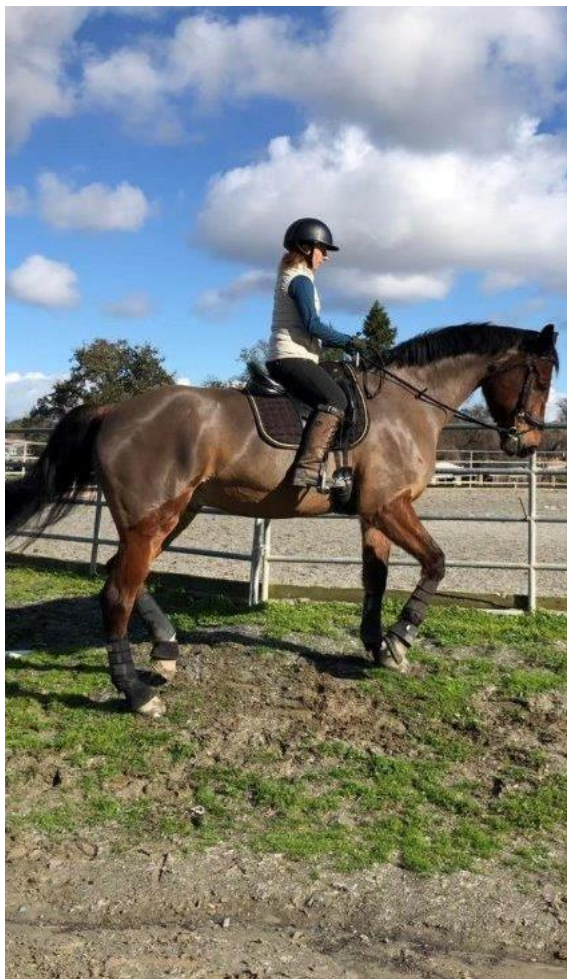
Proposed California legislation AB 233 would authorize local jurisdictions to adopt rules to "*require the rider of a horse to collect and dispose of any waste deposited by a horse on a street, sidewalk, or other public property*".

Please contact your local state representative to let them know you oppose this legislation. I'm sure most of us pick up manure in parking lots, etc. but we need to stop this or we'll be picking manure from trails, which is logistically impossible...

## From Pat McAndrews:

Learn to ride in a manner that protects you and your horse with **Agi Yother**

- Feel safer and more secure in the saddle
- Develop a deeper and more secure connection to your horse
- Recognize the correct posture for a balanced and effective seat
- Develop a higher sense of awareness to keep yourself in correct alignment while riding



**Available for beginners and advanced riders**

**Saturday April 8, 2023 9AM-5PM  
Santa Clara County Horsemens  
20350 McKean Rd. San Jose, CA 95120**

**\$160 Clinic, \$60 Audit**

**Camping corrals available**

**Hosted by Pat McAndrews:**

**20535 McKean Rd.  
San Jose, CA 95120  
Cell: 408-828-1140  
Email: [pat@kittle.net](mailto:pat@kittle.net)**

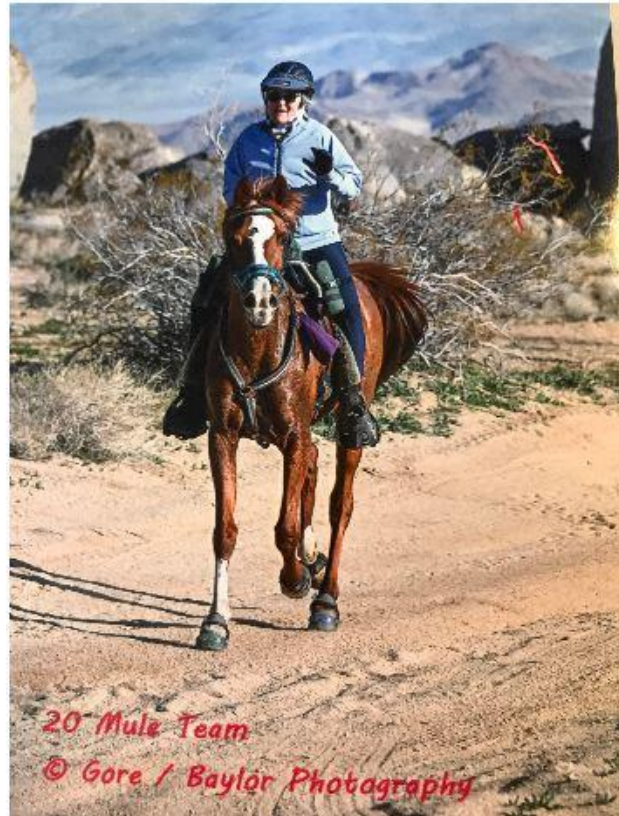
*If your butt hurts at the end of a ride, your stirrups are too long. If your knees hurt, your Stirrups are too short. If everything hurts, they're just right...*

## Ride Report - 20 Mule Team

By Elaine Elbizri

The ride was good. I was pleased with Bella fitting into the endurance mode. She always fits into the whole activity - no questions asked!!!

Rachel Miura - a new member came with me - and her family. She is a good traveling companion and Bella and her Theo get on happily together. But after a long drive to camp Bella demonstrated some ulcer symptoms. After nearly two years of not demonstrating discomfort I had forgotten the pressure she has from long distance travel and big changes of a desert climate. She actually was behaving before the ride as she did on our first ride at Laurel Mountain more than three years ago. She was kind of morose and lack luster. She got good vet scores except for lack of energy in the trot out and the vet listened to my concerns and asked to see her on the day of the ride. I dropped from the 60 to 35 miles.



At the beginning of the ride we passed thousands of snow geese, unfortunately the sun was hardly up and I could not see them too well, some were circling above us and there was this huge white patch to my right that actually looked like snow but it was a mass of birds.



Canadian snow geese take a break in Ridgecrest while migrating every year.

There is a sad story connected with the geese. Rachel's husband Brit was driving into town on his motorbike and had to navigate geese decoys placed on the road. There were two people hiding on the ground beside the road. We searched Google and found an article in The Daily Independent: residents of Ridgecrest have witnessed and reported drivers deliberately mowing down geese as they wander across city streets. Brit had driven through an attempt to catch the culprits.

After the geese, there were lots of rocks and sleeping bushes on either side of us for 35 miles!

For the first time in my endurance experience I rented a camper which was delivered to the campsite right next to our rig. It contained all the luxuries of a queen sized bed, running water and heating, stove top, shower and toilet, table and seats, and a fridge. It was designed to accommodate 8 people and I had it all to myself.

It took me a while to adjust, I was thrown by not having to crawl into a tent and wash my face with a cold flannel etc. etc.

I have done 20 Mule Team. We finished in 10th place! Elaine

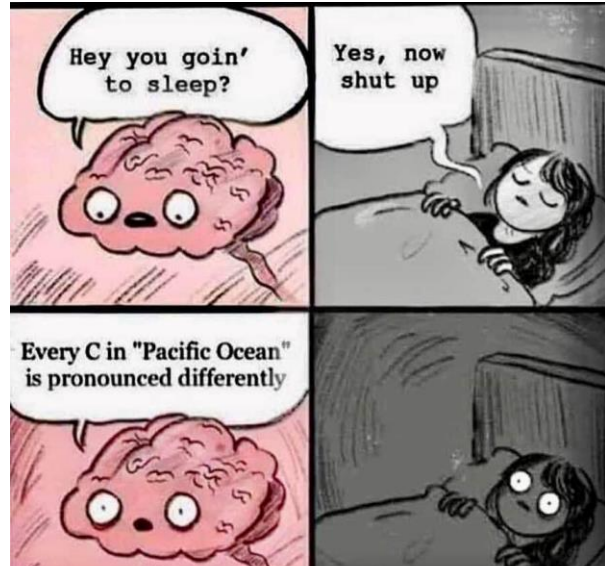
**Be an encourager. The world has plenty of critics already.** Dave Willis

# JUST FOR FUN...

WHAT IF "SOY MILK" IS JUST REGULAR MILK INTRODUCING ITSELF IN SPANISH??



The term "domestic housewife" implies that there are feral housewives, and now I have a new goal.

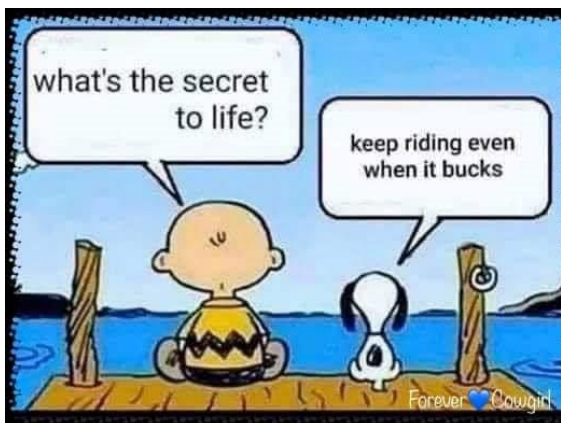


*I'm giving up eating chocolate for a month. Sorry, bad punctuation! I'm giving up. Eating chocolate for a month.*

## Best. Septic Truck. Ever!



I was asked to carve this gravestone, so the grandchildren could sit with grandpa when they visit... *Stephen Yettaw*



## Equestrian life



Expectation



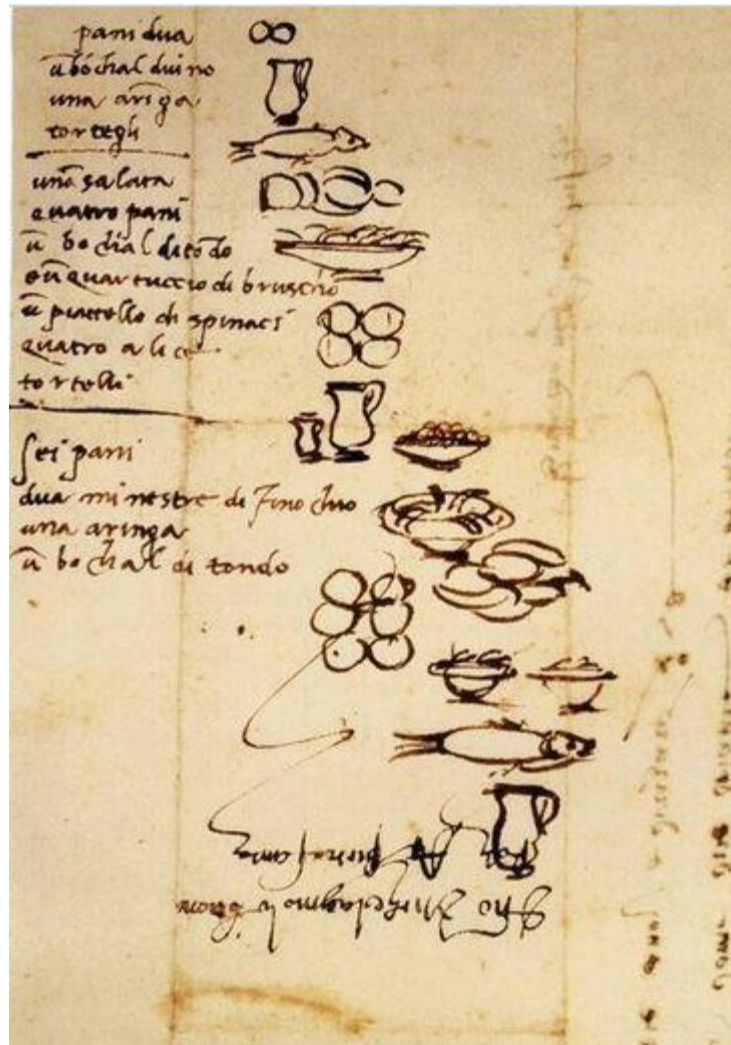
Reality

*I saw this article about Michelangelo's grocery shopping list and it got me thinking about my horse and what do the two have in common. I know, weird, but stay with me...*

Grocery lists. Do you write them by hand? If so, do you write them on a dedicated notebook, on a refrigerator pad, or on any old scrap you find around?

Living in the 15th and 16th centuries, the Italian High Renaissance sculptor, painter, architect, poet, and engineer Michelangelo faced a rather less complicated shopping problem: he had only to send assistants off to market to bring back what he needed. Though vanishingly few of this prolific creator's papers survive today, we do happen to have a few of the grocery lists he sent with them, like that which you see here.

John Updike once wrote that "excellence in the great things is built upon excellence in the small," and the observation holds up ideally when we think about Michelangelo's numerous great achievements- *Pieta*, *David*, *The Last Judgment*, *St. Peter's Basilica*- in comparison to this humble yet striking rundown of ingredients for a meal, of the same basic kind each of us scrawl out regularly. But when Michelangelo scrawled, he scrawled with both a craftsman's practical precision and an artist's evocative flair. "Because the



servant he was sending to market was illiterate," writes the Oregonian's Steve Duin in a review of a Seattle Art Museum show, "Michelangelo illustrated the shopping lists — a herring, tortelli, two fennel soups, four anchovies and 'a small quarter of a rough wine' — with rushed (and all the more exquisite for it) caricatures in pen and ink." As we can see, the true Renaissance Man didn't just pursue a variety of interests, but applied his mastery equally to tasks exceptional and mundane. Which, of course, renders the mundane exceptional.

*As horse people, do we pursue excellence in the small things? Are we clear enough with our horses to send them "shopping" with a list they can interpret? Do we take the extra time to add details to our requests, to make it easier for them to comply?*

*If not, how do we improve our communication?*

*I'm asking myself these questions, and I thought I'd ask **you** to pitch in and send some thoughts on what this means to you. I'm sure we could all benefit from your insights, tips and experiences, so send me a note! I will post them in the next Quips.*

*Cheers - Elisabet*

*If you'll listen longer than most people listen, you'll hear things that most people never hear.*

***Our deepest condolences to Heather and Jeremy Reynolds  
on the loss of their sweet horse, Omen.***



Omen arrived to us as a 5 month old weanling. He was adorable. He quickly became a herd member and a very useful one at that. He was often referred to here as “the coach”. Omen would coach the other horses. From workout coaching, to ground work, to helping with starting horses and even teaching others to trailer load. He even coached other horses at races where he’d encourage our competition. He was a very generous, genuine horse. Omen was also “the people’s horse”. There is a giant community of Omen fans. Many followed his upbringing. He was well loved. One of many great stories about Omen was the time I gave him his first peppermint the night before FITS one year. He’s the first horse I ever had that liked them. Well the next day, around mile 45 I put on some Burt’s Bees chapstick and the peppermint smell had him jamming on the brakes and turning to me in the saddle “I want one!” I had a tough time telling him I didn’t have any candy. He was convinced I was hoarding candy and pouted the next 5 miles. I had to go find candy at the finish line to make amends. Omen also was rare in the fact that his color changed radically throughout his life.

I had a new color horse about every 6 months.



**More about special horses...**

In 1975 when the Gunsmoke TV Series ended, Lorne Greene bought The Buckskin Horse (whose real name was Danny), that he and James Arness shared riding in between Studios from 1959-1973.

Lorne kept him until 1979 then he donated Danny to a Therapeutic Riding Center where Danny the Horse taught mentally and physically challenged children to ride until his passing in 1992 at the age of 45, an unusually long life for a horse to live.



**From Michele Roush:** Hello, QSER members,

If any of you are planning to ride **Tevis** this year, I would strongly encourage you to volunteer a day working on repairing parts of the trail damaged by last year’s Mosquito Fire. You can access workday signups through the Tevis website, via the “Trail Work Days – New Dates” article. It will redirect you to the WSER website for signup.

It would be lovely to see more riders get out to work on this historic trail. Without a lot of maintenance, it could slowly become impassable, first to horses, then to pedestrians and runners. The Mosquito Fire burned large sections surrounding Foresthill, and now those sections of trail are particularly vulnerable to sloughing and washouts. The only way to maintain it is to have bodies get out there and do the work. The more bodies get out there, the lighter the load for everyone and the better the trail will be. It is not an easy day, so be prepared and at least somewhat fit, but it is well worth the effort.

*Michele*

## Ride report - Rancho Cañada del Oro

by E. Hiatt

In between all the rain (ugh!!) Carolyn Tucker and I managed to sneak in a ride at Rancho Canada del Oro. I was skeptical about the trail conditions given the umpteen million inches of rain that have fallen in the last couple of weeks, along with the fact that pretty much everything else is closed, but she knows the place well, so I met her there.

WOW!!!

I could just end this article there, but (of course!) I won't.

The trails were perfect, even those with little creeks running through them. Someone really did a superb job when they planned and built those trails...

We encountered a couple of muddy places, but they were



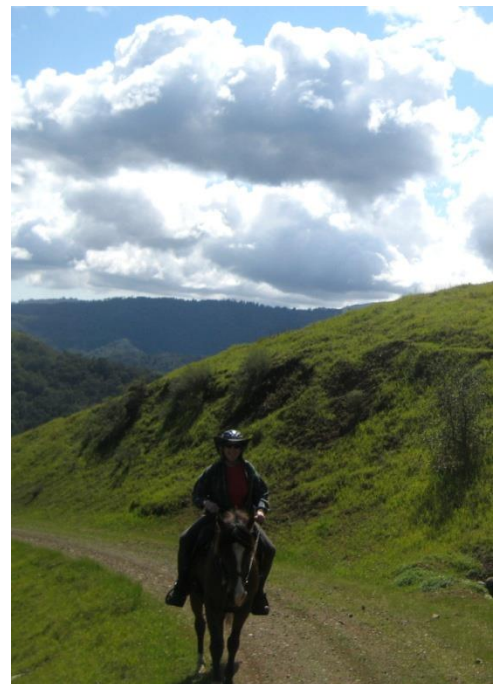
few and pretty minimal. On the other hand, the views, the wild flowers, the creeks, the green grass, the clouds and the very few people and cyclists we encountered were all just amazing. Maybe it felt that way because after over a week of no riding I was really getting in a slump (addiction is bad for you!!!), but I don't think so... Don't just take my word for it. Check out some of these pictures!

Another very fun part of the day was a rather large group of Sr. Citizens that

were hanging out in the parking lot when I arrived. I think they had just returned from a hike. They were fascinated by our horses and took a bunch of pictures! They also asked a **ton** of questions about feeding, shoes, breeds, what we used them for and thought that when Echo moved his head up and down when I asked him if he wanted a cookie was THE funniest thing EVER! A couple of them were brave enough to give him a cookie, much to everyone else's delight. I have the feeling we were the highlight of their day! You should have seen their smiles! They hung around the whole time I was brushing, saddling and getting ready to go. I enjoyed answering all their questions and I'm pretty sure Carolyn did too!

It was also a good reminder that we are, after all, equestrian ambassadors.

I have no doubt that most of those folks will smile and have a good feeling when someone mentions horses to them from here on!



*The heaviest burdens that we carry are the thoughts in our head.*



## Rancho Del Oso Update.

From Debbie Boscoe

Rancho del Oso suffered mightily in the CZU fire. It remains closed except for the mile or so in from Hwy 1 to the parking lot and the Marsh Trail to the Interpretive Center. There are no trails for horses or bikes, and according to Will Fourt, a planner with the parks, there might not be for another few years. Since we can't ride out there and so wouldn't be camping for a while, the park has decided to use the horse camp for other campers in the interim.

Rest assured we are not losing the camp permanently: we get it back as soon as the trails open again, with the improvements promised a few years ago.

Here's the official statement:

### ***Interim Use of the Horse Camp at Rancho del Oso***

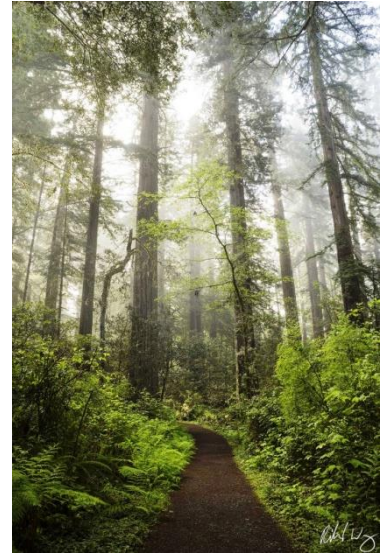
*The loss of camping infrastructure caused by the CZU Fire has created a need for temporary use of existing facilities at Big Basin. While trails from Rancho del Oso (RDO) are closed for reconstruction after the CZU Fire, State Parks will rehabilitate existing damaged camping facilities at the RDO Horse Camp and allow interim non-equestrian camping at the six existing sites starting in summer/fall 2023. This interim camping use will continue until trail access from RDO is reopened for equestrian use, at which point the Horse Camp will be reinstated for equestrian camping.*

*The RDO Horse Camp is the only camping area in Big Basin State Park that has access, water, and facilities after the CZU Fire destroyed almost all other park infrastructure in 2020. The fire caused minor damage to the Horse Camp facilities, and it has remained closed since the fire. The trails in the RDO vicinity were severely damaged in the CZU fire and trail access north from RDO along the Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail is not expected to be restored within the next three years. Until public trail access is restored to the Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail, there will not be any equestrian or bicycle trail access from RDO into the park, and the only trail will be the seasonal Marsh Trail, which is open to hiking only, making equestrian camping at the site impractical during this interim period.*

*During the interim period while trails are rehabilitated, State Parks will allow interim use of the Horse Camp for walk-in and bike-in camping by reservation. Additional camp furnishings will be added, damaged facilities will be restored to allow continued interim use as a campground, and permanently installed infrastructure will remain for future long-term equestrian use of the campground. During the interim period, visitors with a camping reservation for one of the five reservable sites will be allowed to park in the adjacent parking area and walk-in to the campground. There will be one site available to bicyclists without a reservation accessing the site via bicycle from Highway 1. Interim use will not accommodate horse camping as there are no equestrian trails accessible currently.*

*Once equestrian access is restored and trails are reopened from RDO, the Horse Camp will reopen as an equestrian campground. The long-term plan for the area, included in the 2013 General Plan, is to upgrade the Horse Camp to improve trailer parking and vehicle circulation, to make accessibility upgrades, and to develop a separate bicycle camp in the vicinity in addition to the upgraded Horse Camp.*

Many thanks to the crews that are working to clear and fix our trails in what seems like a Sisyphian nightmare. If you see them, please tell them how much we appreciate them and their hard work. Come on, Spring!



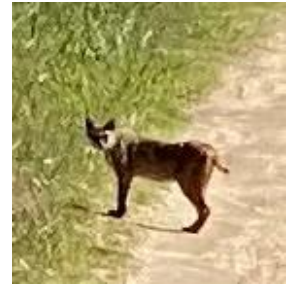
## Fort Ord Ride Report

*by Carolyn Tucker*

Elisabet and I had a great Ride at Ft. Ord on the first Sunny day after all the rain! It was really beautiful with lots of wild flowers, ocean views and wild life.

We saw a healthy looking bobcat busy hunting and also a nice looking Red tail Hawk looking for his lunch. There were lots of other lovely birds twitting and singing their happy songs. So much nature to see and enjoy!

The trails were perfect and dry for good trotting and enjoyable walks. We parked at the Equestrian Center in the Public Parking area, and it was nice, mostly dry and clean. Since the Center has changed Management, you never know how things will be.



Unfortunately, we found out that use of the facility's large arena and restroom are no longer available to the general public.

We rode about a 10 mile loop using the Jerry Smith Corridor Trail to access other nice trails. From the equestrian area, cross the road to the sand trails and follow the hoof prints/flags on the well-used sandy trail till you come to a paved road with traffic. There are signs posted on the road warning drivers to look out for horses crossing, but be careful when you do... people speed!

Cross the road and make note of what it looks like so you can come back that way.

Follow the dirt tracks to other adjoining trails. Most are marked but can get confusing, and some of the trail numbers are not on the maps, so good idea to use your phone to take photos of locations so you can find your way back. A tracking app is helpful too. Something like "All Trails" will track your route and you can follow it back. Pay attention to Power lines and other landmarks to also help you.

Best to ride with someone that knows some of the main trails from the equestrian center because it all looks the same and becomes hard to recall which way you want to go!

There are Bike riders and hikers using the trails and they are mostly very nice and helpful, if you need to ask them for directions.

Enjoy the Park! It has been the only rideable place besides the beach with all the rain, and there are lots and lots of trails to ride with beautiful views.



## Equestrian helmets ratings - 2023

Submitted by: Nicola Mohr

Seems like sometimes more expensive is not necessarily better...



With sponsorship from Jacqueline Mars, USHJA, USEF, USEA, we have rated a total of 39 equestrian helmets using the STAR evaluation system. Our impact tests evaluate a helmet's ability to reduce linear and rotational acceleration of the head from a range of head impacts a rider might experience. Helmets with more stars provide a reduction in concussion risk for these impacts compared to helmets with fewer stars.

For specific information go to:

<https://www.helmet.beam.vt.edu/equestrian-helmet-ratings.html>

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### News from Rachel Miura:

I haven't been to any riding events since Feb, but my daughter Brynn did ride Theo in a schooling show at Spring Down in Portola Valley and they had a lot of fun!

Doing conditioning rides has been hard given the wet Weather, but we've been able to eke out some loops in El Corte de Madera Creek.

Oh - also, Theo came in second in the annual North American Shagya Society endurance standings!



### NASS 2022 Radautzer Annual Award

Second Place – *Theo the Wonder Horse* (NASS/P-ShA-11-293), a Part Shagya-Arabian, owned and ridden by Rachel Miura, bred by Jered Johnson. Rachel and *Theo* completed 300 miles in 2022, attending four rides, two of which were multi-day rides. A twelve year old grey gelding, *Theo's* sire is *Bold Bravo AF* (NASS/ShA-88-021) and his dam is *Nadeja* (AHR\*542632), an Arabian.



*In every partnership, there is a person who stacks the dishwasher like Scandinavian architect and a person who stacks the dishwasher like a raccoon on meth...*



If interested, please contact:  
 Gillese de Villiers: gillesedevilliers@gmail.com

Horse Lease Agreement

This Horse Lease Agreement is entered into as of ..... [Date] between Leyhla Arabians with its principal place of business at Morgenster Farm, Durbanville, South Africa owned by JJ de Villiers Trust and ..... [Lessee's Name], with its principal place of residence at .....[Address] ("Lessee").

Lease of Horse. Owner agrees to lease to Lessee the horse(s) described in Exhibit A (the "Horse(s)") for the purpose of participating in the Darling Ride on 17/18 April 2023.

Lease Term. The term of this Agreement shall commence on 16 April 2023 and terminate on 19 April 2023 (the "Lease Term"). Lessee shall return the Horse(s) to Owner at the conclusion of the Lease Term in the same condition as when received, reasonable wear and tear excepted.

Lease Fee. Lessee agrees to pay the sum of 1500 Euro per Horse leased (the "Lease Fee"), which shall cover the cost of training and preparation of the Horse(s) for the Darling Ride, as well as crew for the ride. The Lease Fee does not include travel and accommodation costs, which shall be the sole responsibility of Lessee.

Care and Maintenance. Lessee shall provide proper care and maintenance for the Horse(s) during the Lease Term, including feed, water, and veterinary care as necessary.

Indemnity. Lessee shall indemnify and hold harmless the Owner, its officers, directors, employees, and agents from any and all claims, damages, and liabilities arising out of or in connection with Lessee's use of the Horse(s), including but not limited to any injury or harm to the Horse(s), Lessee, or any third party.

Insurance. Lessee shall maintain comprehensive general liability insurance for bodily injury and property damage arising out of or in connection with the use of the Horse(s) during the Lease Term. Lessee shall provide Owner with proof of insurance upon request, or specify equestrian competition in travel insurance.

Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes all prior negotiations, understandings, and agreements between the parties, whether written or oral. This Agreement may not be amended or modified except in writing signed by both parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Horse Lease Agreement as of the date first above written.

[Owner's Name]  
 By: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: \_\_\_\_\_

[Lessee's Name]  
 By: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: \_\_\_\_\_



Two of the four horses available for lease.

## Ride Report: Old Pueblo, Sonoita AZ, 11-12 March 2023

By Jerry Wittenauer

“ . . . we bedded ourselves near our warm animals at night. The starlit sky was our roof, and the air we breathed was the clean breath of the desert.” (from Drinkers of the Wind, Raswan, 1938).

11/12 Mar, 2023 . . . Seeking relief from the wet and the cold of Northern CA, Carlos and I ventured to the Sonora Desert, just south of Tucson, for the “Old Pueblo” Endurance Rides.

Carlos has established himself as a “desert dog” – the vast expanses of the desert just seem to suit him, and this was our first trip to the Sonora Desert.

Our camp and ride routes were situated in a zone of slightly rolling hills, covered with (now dry) desert grasses and plenty of Mesquite bushes /trees of all sizes. With temperatures during the day in the mid 60's, I could make a real nuisance of myself by relaying back to my NorCal peeps that my biggest concern was sunburn and dehydration!

Starting at dawn each day, Carlos had his ground-covering floating trot going for the better part of two days, every now and then breaking into a canter to change up the muscle groups that he was using to power us through the miles. We rode 50 miles for each of two days, mostly riding alone, and the beauty of the vast open spaces will stick with me for a while.

Of course, Carlos finished “day 2” like he was ready for more . . . while I could barely walk at that point! The level of satisfaction is enormous – that we as a team can do the right levels of preparation, travel without a hitch, to any location in the desert southwest, and have a successful experience.



In Raswan's account of his 1930's travels among the Bedouin of the Saudi Peninsula in search of the perfect Arabian Horses, he reported that occasions of equestrian valor and success were celebrated with the sacrifice of a goat and a communal feast . . This is not a feature of our culture nearly 100 years later, but that's where my head was at on Sunday evening!

*Trip Notes:* Our Saturday Ride put Carlos and I over the “2000 Endurance Miles” mark, in our seventh season now, much to look back on and think about how far we've come . . . total driving time for this trip was 16 hrs in each direction, I was not in a big hurry, so I split it into 3 days in each direction, 6 hrs to Barstow, 6 hrs to Tonopah AZ, then ride camp . . . great horse hotels for each of my stops and I drive so I'm done by noon or 1 each day . . . it's easy!

I'm learning that these AZ riders are friendly-friendly-friendly – a good bunch of folks! The riding route was very flat, some sand wash stretches that went for 1-2 miles at a time and gave me concern, probably 70% ranch roads and 30% single track trail, a couple of minor hills, lotsa gates to get down and open & close, a fair amount of cattle, and a true 50 miles each day (by my Garmin watch).

**Book review:** *The Principles of Training* by Warwick Schiller

By E. Hiatt

I can honestly say that John Lyons was THE most influential horse person in my equine/training life.

When I got my first horse about 43 years ago, I knew nothing about riding or training horses. I was "helped" by a self proclaimed expert who believed that the horse needed to learn who was "The Boss" by any means necessary. This is how I acquired a stud chain, a big, fat leather horse whip, a long shank bit, and some respectable spurs.

I still have all of these items, but only to remind myself how far I've come.

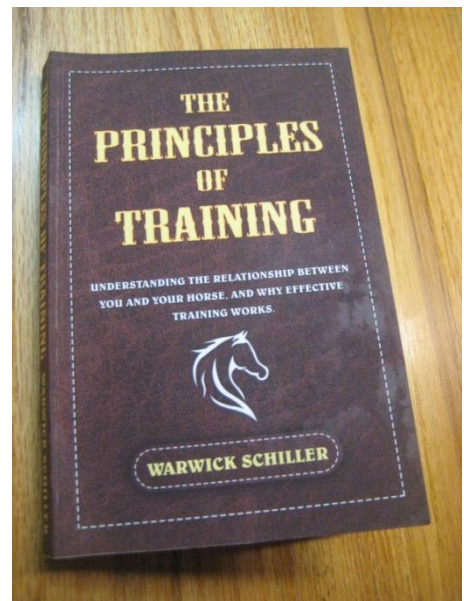
A couple of years into my horse life, I had a very obedient horse, but no connection. He was a basically machine that did what I asked. Period. Something didn't settle well with me.

When someone mentioned John Lyons, natural horsemanship, willing partner and reward learning, I was very intrigued, and soon, hooked! I attended every clinic I could, read his book, magazine articles... anything he had to say resonated with me. My "automaton" horse very quickly became my partner, my friend and my teacher.

Needless to say, I was very sad when John Lyons retired, and for a while I really didn't find anyone who I connected with well enough to delve deeper into their training methods. I enjoyed reading really good books from respected people like Sally Swift, Emma McCrary, Jessica Jahliel, Frederic Sautter, Henry Blake and many others, and although I learned something from each, it just didn't hit the "yummy" spot.

Enter Warwick Schiller... I know this is a book review (I'm getting there!) but I want to mention that he also has a TON of short videos on YouTube that are great. I started watching those and really connected with what he was saying. He recently published his first book: "The Principles Of Training - Understanding the relationship between you and your horse, and why reflective training works"

On the back cover of the book it says: "In the Principles of Training, Warwick Schiller goes beyond mere methods and quantifies the 12 principles behind the techniques used by all successful horse people. After 25 years spent training, Warwick started to utilize a 13th principle that, when integrated with the others, revolutionizes the way you interact with your horse".



I have to admit that in a couple of places he gets a little bit "new age-y" for my taste, but I can see some of his points and reasoning behind it, so it doesn't really bother me.

Here are the titles of the 13 Principles: 1- Work with the horse you have today. 2- Don't go to bed angry. 3- Make the wrong things hard and the right things easy. 4- The Donkey Kong principle. 5- Choose where you work and choose where you rest. 6- Create a tool before you use a tool. 7- They need to know the answer before you ask the question. 8- Change one thing at a time. 9- Anticipation is your best friend or your worst enemy. 10- Do the opposite. 11- The application of your aids. 12- Isolate, separate and recombine. 13- Relationship before horsemanship.

If that doesn't whet your appetite, I'd be surprised! Yum!!!

## Quicksilver Endurance Riders (QSER) Club March 15, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

The Board meeting was held via Zoom on March 15, 2023, beginning at 6:36p.m.

In Attendance: Jerry Wittenauer, Nick Warhol, Rachel Miura, Magda Bartilsson, Elaine Elbizri, Brian Reeves, and Carolyn Tucker.

### Review of Committees/Reports:

#### A. Technical: Website/QUIPS/Other:

In further discussion from January meeting, Nick proposed using the website as a resource center for the West Coast and beyond, including access to the use of a GPS tool. This tool would cost \$250 per year. It would include a repository of GPS files for Ride Routes in our Western Region. Rachel and Magda said they would help with this.

Nick is preparing an article for EN

A motion to support this effort passed unanimously

#### B. Membership -- Rachel reported two new members joined this month

#### C. Goodwill -- No activity in the past month.

#### D. Financial – Nick reported a loss of \$800 for 2022, compared to \$2000 previous year.

#### E. Ride Committee Reports

- QS Fall Classic – Our ride date for this year is 30 Sept, the event is sanctioned and now appears in the AERC Calendar. Next steps include securing vets, applying for use permit with County Parks, arranging for captains for out check, base camp and event liaison.
- Santa Cruz Fireworks Ride – QS to continue to liaise with ride manager for progress on Fireworks for 2024 ride.

#### F. Recent/Upcoming Events:

- 24 Feb – A small QSER Social event (Hosted Bar) was held at the AERC Convention in Jacksonville.
- Rachel and Elaine were to look for possible dates and places for group rides through the summer.

#### G. Trails – Carolyn reports all trails are closed due to the heavy rains and storm damage. Brian reported serious damage to Harvey Bear with trails having been deeply gouged.

#### H. Awards Ctte Status

Chairs for this year's awards committee: Elaine – Eleanor Norton; Mary Anderson –

Horse for Hall of Fame; Lori Oleson for Horse of the Year; Nick for Person Hall of Fame.

Rachel undertook to prepare the Yearbook/Directory.

### New business

Safety on the trail. Magda provided insightful information about her presentation to new riders on the trail. She undertook to provide an article for Quips and to discuss safety and etiquette at the Harvey Bear ride.

The club advert in the Tevis magazine at a cost of \$235 was approved.

Swag Store To extend club publicity Rachel suggested making the logo available for anyone to include it on their purchases. This was approved; Rachel was to do further research.

Elevator ride The possibility of making the Harvey Bear Ride an elevator ride was discussed. Rachel pointed out that HB could be a good ride for those wanting to test their abilities of increasing mileage. Though most agreed that it was a good idea Brian pointed out the restrictions of needing to plan and get AERC approval way ahead of the ride and that riders could not increase their points but only get a completion award for their entire ride.

Future of rides There are to be no more 'Duck' rides in California. Together with other closures this is disappointing news. Brian is putting together plans and ways to introduce new rides.

Owing to the weather it is a grim situation for coming rides. Members were to be asked to volunteer for the Tevis trail work as mentioned in Michele Roush and Lori Olesons' recent emails.

The next Board meeting will be Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April @ 6:30 via zoom

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Elaine Elbizri

### **Treasurer's report:**

Checking \$7,819.41

Savings (trails) \$1075



## April Birthdays

Don Brown 4/3, Melissa Ribley 4/8  
Julie Suhr 4/21, Jill Kilty-Newburn 4/22



**BIRTHDAYS, Y'ALL....** I don't have everyone's birthdays and we want to wish you well! If you are not listed, please send me the day and month! Elisabet

## Market Place

### HORSE BOARDING FACILITY

20535 Rome Drive, San Jose, California. **Stalls: \$400.00, pasture \$330.00.**

Fed twice a day high-quality orchard-alfalfa mix hay.

96' X 48' uncovered outdoor arena. We clean. Shavings available.

1.25 miles to entrance to the Quicksilver County Park (3600 acres and 19.2 miles of manicured trails).

I provide my trailer for use to boarders.

**Trilby – (408) 997-7500**

### ***Equine-imity—Stress Reduction and Emotional Self-Regulation in the Company of Horses*** by Beverly Kane, MD

*Equine-imity* teaches moving meditation in the form of qigong, a tai chi-like practice, with, and optionally on, horses. Based on our Stanford program of the same name. Written with non-equestrians in mind. Share your love of horses with friends and family! Purchase paperback or e-book on Amazon and other outlets. Learn more and download free Introduction at

<http://equine-imity.com>

**Illustrations by Judith Ogas**

### **CENTERED RIDING® LESSONS**

Help your horse use him/herself effectively while going down the trail. Take the stress out of your body and your horse's body. Find out how to have a better seat and make your horse more comfortable.

Centered Riding® lessons available with Level 3 Centered Riding instructor. Clinics available upon request. **Becky Hart (408) 425-5860**

**Books by Julie Suhr --- Ten Feet Tall, Still and ...but it wasn't the horse's fault!** are available for sale. All proceeds go to AERC Trails Fund and Center for Equine Health at UC Davis. Please contact Julie Suhr at:  
**(831) 335-5933**

**Books by Lori Oleson --- Enduring Memories and Endurance... Years Gone By** are available for sale. Re-live the adventures that tell the stories of horses and riders who made their way down the trail in the 1960s through the 1990's. Books are available by contacting Lori at **(408) 710-5651** or [lorioleson@alumni.cpp.edu](mailto:lorioleson@alumni.cpp.edu)

### **Specialized Trailmaster Saddle for Sale:**

The Trailmaster is a lightweight performance based trail saddle. This one is 15lbs, with a 15" seat, and a wide tree. It is all black and has a custom fleece seat cover over the leather seat. I'm including endurance stirrups and a Specialized girth. The billets are new but no leathers are included. Great condition - just needs to be fitted to your horse.

\$1399 **OBO** - plus shipping if necessary.

[debbieboscoe@gmail.com](mailto:debbieboscoe@gmail.com) (Santa Cruz)







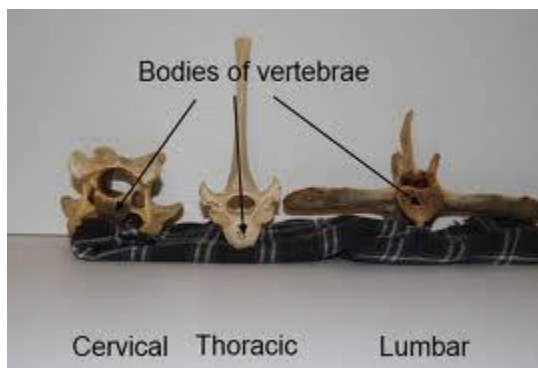
#300 Orthoflex Saddle made for Julie and Bob Suhr's Marinera Ranch. I bought this saddle for my husband and he decided he didn't like it. It's been sitting in my tack room for about a year. I don't think it's happy there. It is well used, but in good condition. I would love to hear some of the stories it has to tell. All original as far as I can tell, including the aluminum stirrups (one of them needs a pad). More photos available. If you are interested, contact me and I will send them. Weighs 28lbs. \$500.00 Elisabet - LAZO@UCSC.EDU

From Elizabeth Madera Evans, Founder and Executive Director of Caring Cowgirl (501c3):

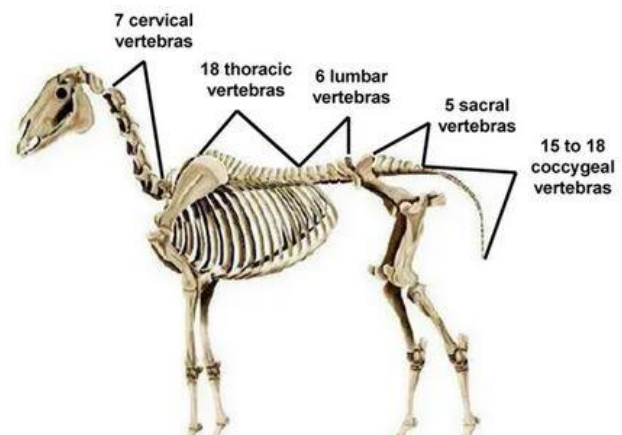
My NPO, Caring Cowgirl is asking for support in buying our merchandise to help us get through this rainy season that has prevented us from providing visits. We have hoodies, baseball caps, t-shirts and really cute mugs!

Caring Cowgirl offers adaptive horseback riding to children with different abilities to bring about radical improvements in the physical, mental and emotional health of her students.

<https://www.caringcowgirl.org/shop>  
[www.caringcowgirl.org](http://www.caringcowgirl.org)  
[liz@caringcowgirl.org](mailto:liz@caringcowgirl.org)



Horses vertebrae are a fascinating thing!



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

**Club Mission** - Quicksilver exists to promote the sport of endurance riding by conducting endurance rides and advocating for equestrian trails. It seeks to provide a model for the highest level of sportsmanship and horsemanship within the context of this sport. It supports and provides educational events and leadership in each of these areas.

FIRST: We need your name \_\_\_\_\_

And then your address \_\_\_\_\_

And your phone number and e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

And then we need your money! Senior membership is \$ 30 \_\_\_\_\_

Junior membership is \$ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

(a junior is under 16 years of age)

Family Membership is \$45 \_\_\_\_\_

Mailed Quips (paper copy) \$20 \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

You can go to our website at : [www.qser.net](http://www.qser.net) to join, OR send a check made out to: **Quicksilver Endurance Riders, Inc.** to: Nick Warhol, 3664 Old Quarry Road, Hayward CA 94541

**THANK YOU!!**

