



Quicksilver Quips

August 2022

*August 22nd:
Happy National
Tooth Fairy Day!*



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Join the club/renew

And random stuff here and there
just because I can ;-)

Officers

2022 Board members are

Jerry Wittenauer - President
Elaine El-Bizri - VP
Nick Warhol, Treasurer
Margaret Hastings, Secretary
Carloyn Tucker - Board
Maryben Stover - Board
Vacant - Board

Newsletter Editor

Elisabet Hiatt
lazo@ucsc.edu

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

President's message

Long days . . . great trail conditions . . . and plenty going on with the club!

Recent Activities – Thanks to everyone for your support to the Fireworks Ride (9 July) and the Finish Line Crew at the Tevis Cup (16 July). Volunteers are what sustain this sport that we all love, and it is always a proud moment to see that the Quicksilver Club is doing some heavy lifting!

Annual Club Awards – The Board took action in the past few months to add some definition to the criteria for nominations and selection for our Annual Club Awards. These guidelines have been posted to our Quicksilver Home Page and can be read at the following link:

[QS-Club-Awards-Guidelines.](#)

We will be pressing for nominations in the fall!

Program Development for 13/14 August Overnighter at Santa Cruz Horsemen's – Jill has put out an e-mail notice calling for "RSVP" for our Club activity on the weekend of 13/14 August. On Saturday, we will have a QS Board Meeting (open to all) at around 4:30, a potluck at 5:30, and a chance for horse camping and local trail riding on both Saturday and Sunday.

Planning for 1 October "Quicksilver Fall Classic" – Latest developments include: We got our permit finalized (yay!) . . . we went "live" with our on-line application and are now up to 15 registrants . . . starting to spend money now: working to secure dumpster, porta-johns, on-site EMT, and awards. We are still in need of pulse-takers and vet scribes for our event – please contact me if you can help!

Thanks to everyone for your continued support of our Club activities!

Jerry Wittenauer, 22 July 2022

2022 QSER Club Calendar

13 Aug QS Camping at Santa Cruz
Horsemen's
10 Sep Kick-off Board Search Committee
17 Sep QS-Sponsored Endurance Clinic
1 Oct QS Fall Classic Endurance Ride
15 Nov All Awards Nominations Due
18 Jan Election of 2023 Officers



Introducing:
Jo Barrett's
GREAT Grand
Children: Esmae
who is 7 and
Freddie, who is 3.
Ok, ok... they
aren't horses, but
you have to admit
that they are very
cute!
They live in
England with their
mom and dad.

JERRY DOWDY

A Celebration of Life

Will be held at the

Santa Cruz County Horsemen's Association on August 4th at 5PM.

This will be an **outdoor** event and all are invited to come and honor our dear friend.
It's a potluck, so please bring something to share along with your memories.

From Lori Oleson:

On July 28th, I will be moving to Greenwood and wanted to give out my new address:

It is 2641 Hoboken Creek Road,
Greenwood, CA 95635.

My phone number and email address
will stay the same.

From Janice Frazier:

If you ride in a SCC park between now and Aug. 15th, PLEASE take the time to do this survey.

It's Available till August 15th, and doing survey you get a chance to win one of five \$100 gift cards.

Here is website:
www.CountyParksSurvey.com

BUT more importantly you identify the volume of horse use in our parks!

PLEASE help make our presence known!

Life is the art of drawing without an eraser.

"Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I'll try again tomorrow." -Mary Anne Radmacher



A Bucket List Item!

Wonderful Week Long Rides held each year in May, June and Sept. Well trained horses and mules are provided as well as lodging (25 double, small cabins), and the finest food you could ever eat and a lot of it! Plus all the wine, beer, soda and lunch supplies!

Evening entertainment is provided every night at the beautiful ranch.

Riders fly into Las Vegas and are picked up by ride staff on day one, ready to ride Zion National Park and then get bused to the ranch after the ride.

Day 2 is Bryce Canyon, both are the most beautiful National Parks before we get to Grand Canyon. We also ride Thunder Mountain, Butch Cassidy trails and the beautiful Slot Canyons at Grand Staircase Escalante. Most of these areas have been carved by years of water and especially the Slot Canyons that are so smooth and narrow from years of rushing water.



We ride mules for Grand Canyon North Rim and the rides are all breathtaking!

Ride management and the wranglers are amazing and take great care of all your needs. They really want you to enjoy the trip! Two families have been providing this ride for over 35 years.

I hadn't ever been to Zion, Bryce or Grand Canyon so I was amazed every day! I had a great horse and met so many nice people from all over the USA and Canada!





Usual ride schedule was breakfast at 7am, on the bus with your lunch at 8am and a fun ride to the trail of the day where the horses are waiting all saddled and ready to go. Rides were about 6 hrs. with a good lunch break. Rides start early to ride when it is coolest.

When we arrive back at the bus, there are ice cold beers, soda and waters. We give our horses to the wranglers to load and take them home. We had about 3 wranglers per group ride each day, to lead and show us all the interesting stuff.

At the end of our ride we were given a nice group photo, a photo of each of us with our horse for the week and a beautiful "RedRock" jean jacket! A photo DVD is put together after we each submit our best photos!



It takes about a year to get into the ride and it fills fast. Registration opens in March for the next year so in March 2023 you can reserve for 2024. Cost is about \$2500.00, well worth it for all you receive.

Website is WWW.RedRockRide.Com and there is an active facebook Page for the RedRockRide.

Phone is 435 679-8665. The Red Rock Ranch is in Tropic, Utah. We also visit Kanab, Utah for an overnight before we go to the Grand Canyon. A really great week!

I'm happy to answer any questions.



JUST FOR FUN...

A HORSE'S TEETH TAKE UP MORE SPACE IN THEIR HEAD THAN THEIR BRAIN



That explains a few things...

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

- What if my dog only brings the ball back because he thinks I like throwing it?
- If poison is past its expiration date, is it more poisonous or is it no longer poisonous?
- Which letter is silent in the word "Scent" the S or the C?
- Do twins realize that one of them is unplanned?
- Why is the letter W, in English, called double u? Shouldn't it be called double v?
- The word "swims" upside-down is still "swims"
- Intentionally losing a game of rock, paper, scissors is just as hard as trying to win.
- Every time you clean something, you make something else dirty.
- Maybe oxygen is slowly killing us and it just takes 75-100 years to fully work...



"From the gentleman at the bar."



**COFFEE IN HAND, SUPPLIES AT THE READY,
ALICE SETTLES IN, WAITING FOR THE
FIRST TELEMARKETER TO GALL.**



Your average equestrian's first words after they get bucked off their horse...

Fun Photo Corner... do you have a fun photo of your pet that you'd like to share with everyone?
Send it on! We'd love to see it!



When she is not playing with her Frisbee
Carolyn Tucker's dog Sadie likes to pretend she is a mop....

NOT "BEHAVING"?



Understand the cause
Don't label the horse

Horses are individuals, not labels

The overwhelming, extreme fear of medical procedures that involve needles is called **Trypanophobia** (trih-PAN-o-foe-bee-uh). Take that with you to Trivia Night!

*A smooth sea never made a sailor.
A perfect horse never made a horseman.*

Interesting horse information - Submitted by Julie Suhr

The average horse is a 1,000 pound container of bone and muscle, supported by respiratory and cardiovascular systems.

- Coming out of the starting gate, the horse will get to 40 miles an hour in six strides. A Ferrari accelerates from standstill to 60 mph in 5 1/2 seconds, a horse can reach 42 mph in 2 1/2 seconds.
- The force of a horse's front hoof is at its greatest at about 2,500 pounds as it hits the track. The force on its front cannon bone has an impact of 10,000-12,000 pounds. The bone breaks at 18,000 pounds.
- A horse inhales and exhales once every stride. At 0.42 seconds per stride it completes 2 1/2 breathing cycles a second.
- At full gallop, the horse takes in five gallons of air in a second. From that air it extracts one quart of oxygen through its lungs, transmitting that energy-fuel through its bloodstream.
- From rest to top speed, a horse's heart rate increases by a factor of 10, a man's body by only four.

"So the horse that walks around, eats grass, looks at the view and gives every appearance of tranquility, was, in fact, designed by God to explode." Dr. George Pratt

Trail ride report - Zmudowski State Beach

by E Hiatt

Zmudowski State Beach is located north of the small town of Moss Landing, CA. It's a long remote sandy beach with tall dunes and vast wetlands behind it. The most popular activities there are surf casting and bird watching. Horses are allowed, and if you want a "quiet" beach ride this is a good place to go, because the beach is pretty flat and a great place to introduce your horse to the ocean. Note that no dogs are allowed on the beach.



The beach spans from the Pajaro river to the Moss Landing harbor, about 5 miles total. Not a lot, but a fun ride none the less.

To get to Zmudowski State Beach, turn onto Struve Road from Highway 1 and then turn again onto Giberson Road which zigzags through strawberry fields and eventually dead ends at the parking lot.

Trailer parking there is a bit tricky, and the "official" parking lot is not really big enough for rigs. There is a wide pullout just a couple of blocks from the parking lot where you can fit two or even three small rigs. Turning around is a bit of a challenge, but doable.

Shannon Thomas and I have gone there quite a few times. On the most recent trip we encountered Northern Fulmar seabird (it's cool to ride with an exotic animals veterinarian that knows this stuff!) that was clearly not meant to be on the beach... so we scooped it up, wrapped it in a bandana (the little suckers bites!!!) and my husband, who happened to come along just for a hike, delivered it to the Kayak place up the road. The SPCA picked it up from there and hopefully will rehab and take it back to the open ocean where it belongs.



Why bother going to Zmudowski? Well... it's a very nice beach and there is hardly ever anyone around (maybe because it's not that easy to get to?) so there are times when you have the whole beach to yourself... something that's worth experiencing once in a while, especially if you like a brisk gallop without worrying about freaking anyone out or running into fishing poles!



My horse Theodore and I completed the Fireworks LD this year, had loads of fun, and reflected on these takeaways. Perhaps these are obvious to seasoned riders, but maybe also good reminders! And, if you're new to endurance, I hope you find them helpful.

Expect the unexpected - who'd have thought a HELICOPTER would land in ride camp?! Um, no one! This experience just showed me you really never know what is going to happen, but to stay calm and carry on.

Really look for the ribbons - they can be easy to miss when you're moving fast, but whenever I got confused about where to go I was always able to work it out by slowing down and carefully observing. Thank you to those who marked the trail, that is no small task!

The river crossing isn't that bad! Granted, we got the opportunity to check it out with a seasoned local rider (thanks, Elisabet!), plus we even rode all the way to the crossing the day before, but if your horse is relatively reasonable with water it will probably be fine.

Smile and say hello to all other trail users you pass (yep, even the bikes who don't yield), and always give copious thanks to the many volunteers who showed up to make the ride happen. It's up to us to be the best stewards of our sport that we can be.

Enjoy the scenery - OK, admittedly, I spent lots of time looking at the ground and footing so I could ensure we were going at a safe speed, but along with that I also tried to look up at the amazing redwoods and vistas! This ride was so lovely, how lucky are we?!

Don't take yourself too seriously - yes, it's great to have goals and be earnest in pursuing them, but as with all things horse-related - stuff doesn't always go according to plan. I saw a few people out there that were stressing because their ride plan was going down the tubes. For sure - not a fun experience, but try to stay flexible, have fun, and learn what you can even when your plans get derailed. If you can take some learnings away it's not really a total waste.

A few minutes here and there really add up in the end - we didn't lollygag on the trail, but we did spend a few minutes extra at each of the vet and water stops, and well, it added up in the end. We finished 30 minutes before the cut off, but could have probably increased that to 60 minutes if we were more mindful of our time.

Take the time to chill at ride camp - we left Saturday after the ride and looked longingly at those that were lounging in post-ride glow around the lovely Showgrounds. Next year we'll make a weekend out of it!

Have fun out there and see you next time

Horses' Eyes Fun Facts...

Eye Placement

Our eyes are referred to as forward-facing, and most predatory animals have this placement. Eyes placed on the front of the skull allows for a wide field of binocular vision, enhanced depth perception, and some believe better night vision.

Our dear old horses on the other hand, are prey animals, and therefore have laterally facing eyes. This lends itself to greater peripheral vision, a panorama if you will of around 350-degrees.

Unlike us, horses have both binocular and monocular vision. Each eye sees and moves independently, which is where their lack of depth perception comes in. But when they look straight ahead, their field of vision overlaps and gives them a binocular view complete with more depth perception. Horses move their head up or down to bring things into focus, and I think we've all seen our horses do this when they are trying to figure something out, like a scary tarp on the ground.

Each eye feeds into the corresponding side of the brain with little crossover information. That's why your horse might spook at the mounting block in the corner of the ring once when going to the left, and then again when going to the right. It's all new information when you change rein. Never mind the mounting block has been there for three years. That has nothing to do with their eyesight!

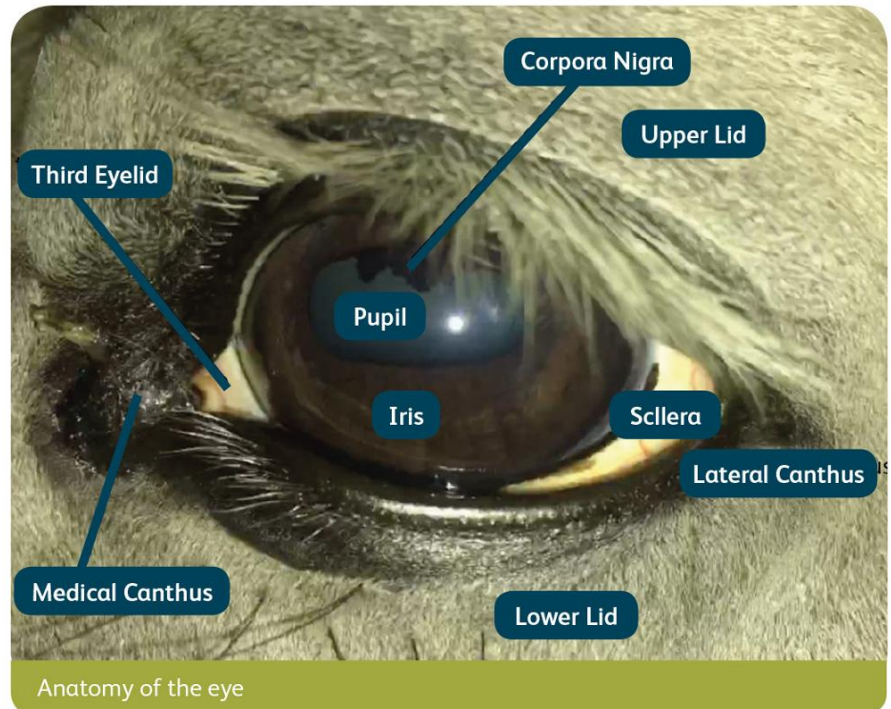
The eyes of a horse are protected not only by the same types of eyelids that people have, but also by the **nictitating membrane**, which is sometimes called the third eyelid. This additional eyelid is a whitish pink color, and it is found under the other eyelids in the inside corner of the eye (near the nose)

Horses do have a blind spot of approximately three feet directly in front of them and six feet behind them. They can also see the horizon and the ground at the same time, which I can't even imagine. This is probably why your horse just keeps eating when you walk out into the field to catch them. They see you even if they aren't looking at you. Creepy.

Anyway, all this fancy vision allows horses to hopefully spot that prowling lion behind them in the tall grass. You and I would just get wiped right out, none the wiser to the approaching cat.

Eyes and Ears

A horse's ears and eyes operate together. If the left ear is pointed forward, the left eye is looking forward. And, as with the eyes, each ear works independently and listens separately, which sounds very confusing indeed.



2022 TEVIS stories....

From Mary Anderson:

This year I volunteered to haul pulled horses out of Robinson Flat.

Unfortunately, many horses were pulled at Red Star which changed everything ...heading 6 miles above Robinson Flat of rough dirt road taking about 1.5 hours to travel up the mountain with deep ravines on both sides...meeting another trailer coming down the 1 lane dirt road with a 1/2 inch between our trailer fenders was interesting.



A friend who volunteered to be my Co-Pilot shouted “unlock the truck doors and roll down the window if we go over the edge I am jumping out!” That was silly, however with the trees all burned out it was quite unsettling to see the depths of the canyons from the top of the mountain above the tree line. Traveled back down to Auburn for food and rest only to discover it was 102 at 6:30pm both Friday and Saturday evenings which was much warmer than normal. That’s Tevis, always expect the unexpected.

Congratulations to those who completed and to those who gave it their best shot!

Happy Trails!

From Nick Warhol:

Tevis did not go as planned. Starting in Pen A is fantastic. No muss, no fuss, no crowd, just perfect. We had a nice, but tough ride to Robinson flat and all was good. Sorsha blew through the vet check at red star, pulsed down on arrival, and we arrived at Robinson flat at 10:30, a nice pace. She passed the vet check with great everything, low pulse, all good stuff. She ate for 30 minutes like a pro.



I was just ready to tack up and head out when she had a weird episode that looked like a cramp, or colic. She did not want to move, bent her head downwards, looked behind her, and her rear end shook and quivered a little. We said “uh oh” and walked her a bit, where she continued to look funny for about 5 minutes. I took her to the vets, but by the time we got to where the treatment vet was located she was back to normal. She was eating grass and looking fine. The vet, Langdon Fielding, said “you sure this is a sick horse? Her pulse was 44 and she looked good.

Nope, she never did that before, so I pulled her. Not at 35 miles. Maybe if it were at mile 94 at the quarry I could have walked her in, but not here in this heat. They gave her fluids as a precaution, and after an hour she was discharged as fine. It took several hours to get her back down to the finish vet for her exit evaluation, but they immediately released her and we took her home. She was never in any real danger, I stopped as a precaution. Oh well, my first pull at Robinson flat, but I don’t care. She’s all that matters.

Thanks so much to my crew- my wife Judy, Ines, and Gretchen.

Quicksilver Endurance Riders (QSER) Club July 20, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes

The Board meeting was held via Zoom on July 20, 2022. Call to Order by President Jerry Wittenauer at 6:34 p.m. In Attendance: Jerry Wittenauer, Nick Warhol, Elaine Elbizri, Maryben Stover, Carolyn Tucker, and Margaret Hastings.

➤ Review of Committees and Reports:

➤ Technical

- Newsletter – Jerry reported that he had 10 volunteers at the Tevis Finish Line providing rider support, snacks and coffee. Jerry spoke on the loudspeaker system as riders completed their ride around the stadium. He will send a group photo to Elisabet for inclusion in the Quips.
- Website (Nick) – Nick contributed that there are 11 entries for the Quicksilver ride on October 1, 2022. Nick proposed that the Club purchase an event registration App called “Jot Notes for \$174.00 per year to help with ride registrations. Both Nick and Carolyn have experience using the App and like it. A motion was made and all voted in favor of purchasing the App.

➤ Membership (Nick & Maryben) One new membership (for 2 years) received.

➤ Goodwill (Maryben) Nothing to report.

➤ Financial (Nick) – Nothing to report.

➤ Ride Committee Reports

○ Fireworks Ride (All)

- The Club supplied good volunteer support to Santa Cruz County Horseman's and the ride went well. An emergency helicopter landing on Friday night was frightening but most horses were ok with it. Jill is the liaison and will be preparing a write-up.

○ Plans & Prep for the Quicksilver Fall Classic (Jerry) – Plans for the ride are on track.

- Park Permit has been approved and 4 vets are confirmed. Insurance is forthcoming. Still need an EMT and to order dumpster and port-o-lets.
- If we have 90 entries the Club could profit \$3100 (only Club revenue source other than membership dues.) Prior year entry was \$135 and Jerry would like to raise it \$15 to \$145. A motion was made and all voted in favor of increasing the ride entry to \$150.
- Additional volunteers needed: 4 Vet Scribes, P&R help, maybe 12-15 additional volunteers.
- Jerry will be working on updating the map.
- Completion t-shirts will be ordered in addition to using what we have in stock. Gift Certificates were suggested as Awards for First Place, Best Condition and Junior.
- Elaine is working on plans for the Saturday night meal. Various options were discussed that might meet the \$10/person budgeted as part of the ride entry. Plan on 60 riders at 1 p.m. and 60 riders at 6 p.m.; We will also need to provide volunteers with a bag lunch.
- Elaine is also working on ideas to celebrate that it is the Club's 50th running of this ride.

➤ Recent and Upcoming Events

- Jerry shared that the ice cream social on June 25th went well with about 10 people attending. He used Evite but found that it wasn't cost effective.
- **Next Social Event: August 13 - 14th** Club Camp out at Santa Cruz Horseman's Association grounds. Jill sent an email out to Club members. The Club's August Board Meeting will be held there Saturday, August 13th at 4:30 p.m. and is open to all. Potluck Dinner will be at 5:30 (There will be a BBQ available for those who wish to cook).
- Elaine is compiling a Club history for future publishing in the Quips and/or website.
- Endurance Clinic (Nick) – September 17th – All coming along well.

➤ Trails (Carolyn) – All open and good. Jerry shared that Mid-Pen recently voted not to open trails to e-bikes.

➤ Awards Committee Status (Nick and Jerry) – Summary of Award Criteria has been uploaded to the website.

➤ The Board meeting schedule will continue on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. with the exception that the next meeting will be held at the campout August 13th at 4:30 p.m.

➤ The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

➤

Carolyn Tucker and Margaret Hastings

Treasurer's report:

Checking acct \$10,575

Trails fund \$1,075

Jotforms web site annual fee \$174



August Birthdays

8/16 - Lori Oleson & Barbara White



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 Beverley 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 Oqus

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

***Success is a journey, not a destination.
The doing is often more important than the outcome.***

Arthur Ashe

Hi Everyone,

I bought these from Stateline tack for \$139.00 and decided they are not for me - I am just too short. But they are very comfy - I have not worn them at all they are in brand new packaging. it will cost me \$50 to return them so I'm seeing if anyone would like to buy them from me for \$130.00 and we can arrange to meet in person so you can have them. They are a size 7. I have wide feet and they seemed fine. The leg part is also roomy if you have ample calves. Please pass this on if you know anyone who would be interested. **Judith Ogus**
judith@randomarts.biz



For Sale: **NEW PRICE!**

Lance Camper 9'10" - Hardly Used!
Onan Generator used only 44hrs
Electric Jacks, Roof Resealed 2019
Full Refrigerator Serviced 2019
New Vents & Blinds 2019
All Maintenance Receipts Available
Micro Wave and Gas Stove/Oven
Air Conditioner
Large Pantry and Clothes Closet

JDPower BluBook - \$11,800.00
Asking \$ 7,500.00 or Best Offer
Carolyn Tucker 408-612-6846 cell



For Sale: Hit Air vest. Size Small. Wore it a couple of times, now languishing in my trailer. Purchased from Smartpack less than a year ago. Warranty card has not been filled. The only thing missing is the plastic bag it came in!
\$400 shipped anywhere in the US.

Elisabet - Lazo@ucsc.edu or 831-234-4732

Hit Air (#19902)

Hit Air® Equestrian Super Light Weight Vest

★★★★★ (22) ❤ Save for Later

Our Price: **\$499.00**

<https://www.smartpakequine.com>

FREE GROUND SHIPPING

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 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!!

