

Quicksilver Quips

March 2006

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<http://qser.net/>

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

POINTERS ON PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES FROM NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

THE RECORDING SECRETARY:

The first duty of a secretary is that of keeping accurate records of the proceedings of the organization.

Minutes should be as brief as possible and should be reported in the order in which the business was presented in the meeting. Personal opinions and details of discussion are not included. What is done by the association, not what was said by the members, should be recorded.

Exact wording of the motion.

Name of member who introduced a motion (but not that of the seconder.)

MOTIONS:

Robert's Rules of Order specifically provides that:

Each member has the right to speak twice on the same questions on the same day, but may not make a second speech on that same question as long as any other member who has not spoken on that question desires to speak on it. The maker of a motion has the right to speak first

...
One way is to simply go around the room (in order) twice. You may speak or pass your turn. This eliminates members speaking out of turn with other members not getting a chance to speak.

All speakers must address their remarks to and through the presiding officer, be courteous, and avoid all personalities, never alluding to the officers or other members by name where possible to avoid it and never questioning the motives of members.

– mb

FROM THE EDITOR

Anyone with trails news or any other news, please pass it on to me for the next newsletter. I kind of live in my own little world, isolated over here in the central valley so am not up on what's going "down" the trail over there.

Some classified ads have expired and have been deleted. If yours was one of them and your item is still for sale, please notify me and I'll put it back in with a new expiration date. If your item is sold and your ad is still running, please notify to remove it.

– Jackie

MEMBERT PROFILE

BARBARA AND LUD McCRARY

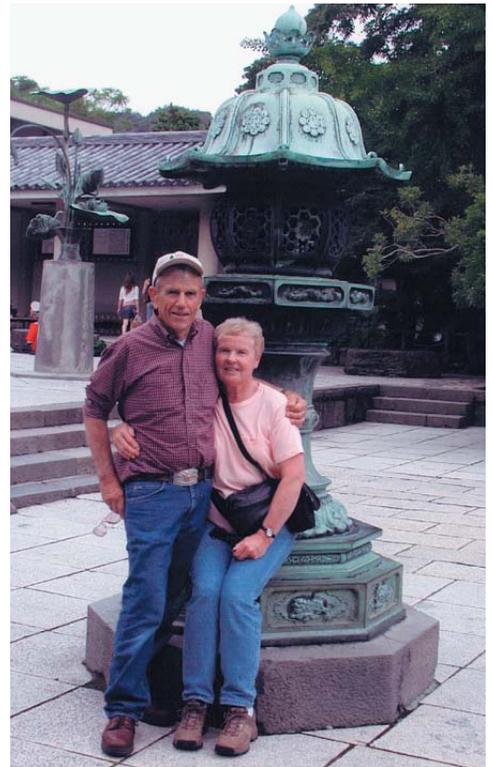
Barbara and Lud live in Davenport on Swanton View Rd and have been managing the Swanton Pacific ride for 30 years. Barbara has been riding for 62 years and doing endurance for 35 years. Lud's years in the saddle count 68 and he has been doing endurance for 34 years.

Barbara's main squeeze is BCR Katerine Bey (Katie Bey). Lud's mount is Flying Cloud. They both train around Swanton and in the Big Basin Park area. 50-milers are their cup of tea with Lud's total miles at 6,215 and Barbara's at 6,980. Both Barbara and Lud's favorite ride is the Applegate-Las-sen: "point to point on real historical trail."

The McCrary's claim to fame is having the largest family group (five) to finish Tevis in the same year. Lud adds his claim to fame as five first place, five BC in the same ride (1992 Applegate-Las-en 5-day).

The McCrarys have three daughters, three sons-in-law and four grand-kids that all ride. Two of the grandkids ride endurance while the other two help put on the rides.

Barbara reports that her current goal is to get Katie Bey into her first ride and they both want to get back to endurance after two years of horse problems.



Lud and Barbara in Japan 2005.

HUDDART PARK NEWS

I have been contacted by the Woodside Horsemen's group and asked to share information on what is happening and Huddart Park. Apparently the wrestling for the trails in this area continues, as there are proposals being put forth to close popular entrances to horses and open some trails to bikes. I don't normally have too much problem with multi-use trails, but do think this park would be a bad choice, as the footing is so beautiful here - there is none of the technical difficulty to slow bikes down and encourage respectful trail sharing.

For those of you who have not ridden the parks on the peninsula, I would be really happy to meet you up there for a ride one day. They are awesome parks with beautiful footing, gorgeous redwood trees and lovely trails that climb to skyline boulevard. In the late summer and fall it is often cool and shady here - truly refreshing!

The information that I have received is below. They are requesting that horse people attend the meeting that is scheduled on the 22nd. They also have e-mail and snail mail contacts listed below for parks commissioners. Any communication on this matter would help. I will bring some postcards to the banquet for those who are not e-mail inclined.

If nothing else - they have an amazingly organized response to this crisis; links to community surveys they have done and trails websites. Check it out, as it is a nice model if you ever face this sort of challenge in your community.

Thanks for your consideration!

Jill Kilty Newburn

Hi Jill ... Here is all the information. There is a big meeting scheduled for March 22, 2006 . It is the meeting of the San Mateo County Park & Rec. Commissioners and the public to discuss and vote on a proposed mt. biker trail in Huddart Park
March 22, 2006 - 7:00 - 9:30 pm
McKinley Institute of Technology Jr. High
400 Duane, Redwood City, CA

This will be a meeting with a vote by the Commissioners on the proposed Huddart Park mountain bike trail which will be included in the Master Plan. If this gets approved it will go before the Board of Sups for final approval. We cannot afford to lose at this level. It will only be an enormous uphill battle going to the Board of Sups. So this is it! Let's swing the vote our way! ATTEND THE MEETING and if you have not written or emailed the Commissioners, please do so now. There are also 2 new Commissioners (*) who were appointed last month and need to understand our position. Take action! Please let your views be known!

Write or email the following Commissioners:

Bern Smith, Mel Pincus, Marian Vanden Bosch, Teresa Guingona*,Ro Khanna*. Email them at:

ParksandRecreation@co.sanmateo.ca.us

Or send communication to: San Mateo County Parks & Recreation, 455 County Center, 4th Floor, Redwood City, CA 94063

Also the park & rec. staff report on the trail will be available 3/3/06

Thank you! Donna Poy, WHOA!

This date is the same as the Castle Rock ride so maybe QSER members could come up with a project before then to help Barbara and Lud prepare the trails. At the Awards Banquet they were talking about trail work they had done that very day!

TRAIL TROTTERS DAY JUNE 3, 2006

Trail Trotters Day is a day dedicated to public works or different projects on our trail systems. According to the American Horse Council, equestrians from all venues, Eventing, Dressage, Endurance and many more enjoy trail riding for relaxation. However, as available open space is either sold off or is not longer accessible to horses, horseback riders are finding fewer and fewer places to ride.

The Equestrian Land Conservation Resource organization (ELCR) launched Trail Trotter's Day to promote access to land for horseback riding. As a participant, you help repair or do maintenance work on the very trails you enjoy. All Trail Trotter's Day projects will be completed on June 3, 2006. Since this is a one day, national event your time

commitment will be brief, but much appreciated. Although participants may volunteer for projects on any type of land, due to a backlog of maintenance, ELCR is encouraging participants to consider projects on or near national forest land. A map of national forest land locations is available at ELCR's website.

Trail Trotter's Day is a free program with no fees or membership requirement. It is quick and easy to become a Trail Trotter by registering for an existing project or a new project. For more details, go to ELCR's website: www.elcr.org and look for the Trail Trotter link. Trail Trotter's Day is funded with the help of ELCR major sponsors including the National Forest Foundation and Tread Lightly.

CALLING ALL MEMBERS ... MORE MEMBERSHIP PROFILES NEEDED!

We had a great response last month for member profiles and we have a lot more left to go!!!

Please fill out the questionnaire below and email or snail mail it to me with a photo of yourself and your horse. Have an endurance riding family? Let's see 'em!!!



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? _____

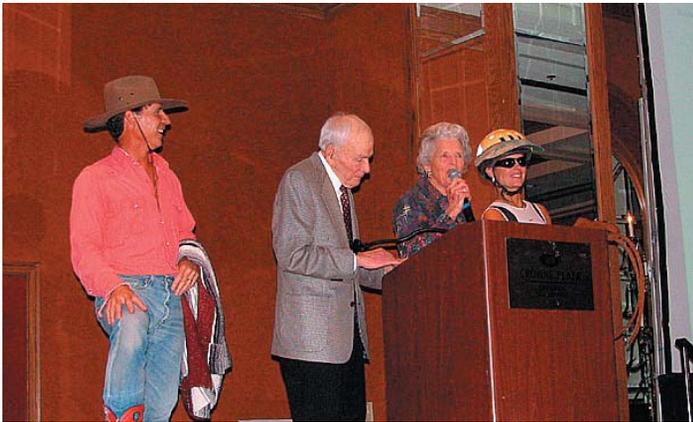
Anything else you'd like to contribute about yourself (spouse, children, do they ride, what you do for a living, etc.) _____

Email the answers to typéf@comcast.net or cut out and send questionnaire to:

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

DON'T FORGET A PICTURE OF YOURSELF!

AERC CONVENTION SNAPSHOTS



Keynote speakers Julie and Bob Suhr giving their "The Way We Were and The Way We Are" commentary, ably assisted by Melissa and Robert Ridley.
Photo courtesy StephTeeter@endurance.net



Mariachis - *Photo courtesy StephTeeter@endurance.net*



Crockett Dumas, Hall of Fame Honoree
Photo courtesy StephTeeter@endurance.net



Jackie Floyd with Tracy Bailey of Long Riders Gear in the AERC Vendor section
Photo courtesy StephTeeter@endurance.net



Square Dance anyone? *Photo courtesy StephTeeter@endurance.net*



Roomies Cindy Bell from Florida, Karen Chaton and Jackie Floyd. Tinker Hart also stayed with us one night. Hey, we clean up purty good!



The Ribleys



AERC members enjoying the San Antonio River Walk ... Karen Chaton and Tinker Hart (middle)

MEMBER NEWS

Barbara & Lud McCrary has new address. Same place, same house but the County changed them.
640 Swanton View Road
Davenport CA 95017

Club member, Gillian Tabb, passed away from breast cancer in February. Gill volunteered at a QSER ride a few years ago, shortly after a surgery. She wanted to complete an LD ride which was not possible but she rode one of her three horses whenever she could. Gillian was a wonderful person, so full of love and life. She is very much missed by all who knew her.
– **Judy**

Laney Humphrey has a new email ...
laneyhh@comcast.net

Pam Plaggmier Villa completed her first "100" at the 20 mule team in February riding along with her sister Melissa Ribley and brother-in-law Robert Ribley on a horse named K.C. owned by Connell Allison. It just goes to show you that you can take a horse who spent most of his years in a pasture, give him 2 years of training rides LD's and 50's and watch him finish a 100 without much effort. Congratulations PAM and KC for a job well done...

– **Mary Anderson**

Welcome back to ...
Robert Oram
310 Old Adobe Road
Watsonville CA 95076
831-252-6670
TRVLR161@aol.com



EQUINE PHOTOGRAPHS

True Moments Photography
P. O. Box 2073
Gilroy CA

www.mytruephoto.com
Tiffany Salinas-Harwell

Tiffany and her Husband and two of their children came to our banquet and donated two separate sessions of photography. They brought cards to fill out (free to each guest) and drew two winners.....

Go to the website to see their photographs....

TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF 2/15/06

General Account \$ 6,540.04
Add dues..... 330.00

Total \$ 7,070.04

Junior Account \$778.54
Trails account..... \$ 1,012.02

QSER DUES ARE DUE!!!!

If you haven't paid your 2006 QSER Dues, now is the time!!! Please send your check for \$25 per person (\$15 for Juniors 16 and under) to:

Maryben Stover
1299 Sandra Drive
San Jose, CA 95125-3535

BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN RENDEZVOUS

If you have an interest in horse camping or packing you may wish to attend the Back-Country Horsemen of California Rendezvous at the Stanislaus County Fairgrounds in Turlock that runs from March 24-26.

The event includes various demonstrations and clinics dealing with back country travel and camping with horses, mules, and burros. For anyone interested in BLM adoption, I note that BLM mustang and burro training is listed as an event on all three days.

Vendors are present selling camping equipment, pack saddles, tack, and other gear which is usually hard to find except through mail order catalogs.

– **Judy Etheridge**

HORSE OF THE YEAR AWARD

I am writing you and to the Quicksilver Club to thank you for the honor of receiving the Horse of the Year Award for LV Cambridge. I unfortunately was unable to attend the banquet due to a scheduling conflict, but I was quickly made aware of the award by attending members (Peter & Kiki) who called me right after the dinner and read the award monolog describing Cambridge's accomplishments and recognition. I can't tell you how surprised I was and still am on this acknowledgment. As Cambridge's rider I had a career year on him, and hope that we can continue our riding success. Thank you again.

– **Barry Waitte**

WHO SPREADS THE WEEDS? DON'T BET ON THE HORSE

Study of how nonnative plants invade parkland focuses on the long-held notion that manure carries the seeds. So far, it looks like a myth.

By Andrew H. Malcolm, Times Staff Writer
January 20, 2006

Some California university students and their department chairman have launched an unusual study of an ordinary substance - horse manure - that could help protect the state's parklands from invasive plants. And protect the reputation of horses all over.

The study is the first scientifically rigorous effort to determine if noxious weed seeds accidentally consumed by horses end up spreading the weeds into new territory through horse droppings, as many outdoors enthusiasts have long believed. Fears of contaminating virgin lands with rogue plants have already caused several states to require expensive certified weed-free feeds for horses using public lands.

"Weeds are an enormous problem in our nation's parks," said Holly Bundock, a spokeswoman for the National Park Service, one of numerous federal, state and county agencies charged with the never-ending battle against weeds.

But weeds are not just aesthetically displeasing, said Rita Beard of the Park Service's Biological Resource Management Division.

"Invasive weeds like the yellow star thistle systematically seek to create their own monoculture on wild lands," she said. By taking over large land areas aggressively, they consume sparse moisture and destroy the biodiversity that wildlife and insects depend on for food and shelter. Some weeds, such as the knapweed family, even create a zone of poisoned soil around each plant that prohibits growth of other plants.

Completely halting the spread of seeds in the wild is a hopeless task, given that nature has designed them to propagate so well. Seeds have the ability to float on wind, to be consumed by birds and expelled, or to grasp onto passing animal fur. But humans also inadvertently accelerate the emigration of seeds to new territory in the mud on mountain bikes, off-road vehicles and even in the hooves of animals and boots and clothing of hikers.

Many have long suspected horses too. Bundock says the new study, being conducted by Dominican University in San Rafael with a \$100,000 Park Service grant, is still a year from completion and officials are reluctant to draw conclusions yet. But preliminary indications from Northern California sites indicate the horse as demon weed-seed spreader may actually be a rural legend. The study expands into Southern California this year.

"Weeds make a fire problem," Bundock added. "Weeds make a drought problem. Weeds make erosion problems. Weeds are very serious and they're becoming a more serious problem every year. Thirty years ago we rarely had wildfires in the desert. Now dried weeds have created abundant fuels there."

Federal and state land management agencies have long had in place integrated weed management strategies to combat existing populations of undesirable plants. Less focused have been efforts to prevent new infestations, and increased

human use of wild lands also creates increased opportunities for further spreading.

Last year the Park Service awarded the grant to Dominican to study the perceived problem of horses and to devise a variety of public educational materials to combat the spread of weeds. One result, for example, has been pilot tests of a simple mountain bike tire scrubber to remove clinging mud and its tiny cargo of seeds at trailheads.

Horses are frequent visitors to roadless park areas transporting both riders and supplies.

More than 700,000 horses a year cross onto national park land in California alone, according to one estimate. They consume hay, grains and available grasses. Requiring that the animals be fed certified weed-free feed imposes significant costs on owners and others. But would that make any difference in curbing weed spread?

"We've had all sorts of comments, assumptions, hypotheses and anecdotes," said Sibdas Ghosh, head of Dominican's department of natural science and a research leader. "Many believe that seeds pass through the horse gut and, once in horse manure, they sprout and germinate in a new location. Theoretically, these could involve noxious weeds." But Ghosh's research of the professional literature on weeds and wild lands found this widespread belief based on absolutely no documentation.

Ghosh, colleague Mietek Kolipinski and their students developed a strict scientific protocol to guide the studies. They employed student biology majors to collect dozens of horse manure samples from trail, paddock and pasture sites in the Bay Area. This year, they will report on additional collections from both Northern and Southern California.

The samples were separated, labeled and cultivated in weed-free soil in small pots at a university greenhouse free of contamination. Of the 90 pots, 34 plants germinated in 21 of them. All plants were then identified by a native-plant specialist. They included toad rush, dooryard knotweed, summer mustard, bur-clover, purslane, cheeseweed and 25 Italian ryegrass plants.

Some of the cultivated plants were nonnative to the areas where that manure sample was collected. But none of them was listed by California's Department of Food and Agriculture as a noxious weed, probably indicating the horses are already eating weed-free feed, avoiding such plants and not spreading weeds. The next round of tests will determine if that initial pattern holds true for horses in the rest of the state.

"While we await the study results," Bundock said, "we can still proceed with an aggressive education program to make individuals aware of their potential role in spreading weeds."

Alien invaders

Public land managers are trying to stem the spread of invasive plants, which are referred to as noxious weeds. Most

of the weeds listed below spread quickly and displace native vegetation.

Puncturevine (*Tribulus terrestris*), from Mediterranean region Description: Yellow flowers on prostrate stems up to 2.5 feet long

Problem: Foliage is toxic to livestock, especially sheep, when consumed in quantity. Produces many stout-spined burrs that can injure people and animals and puncture bicycle tires.

Yellow star thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*), from southern Europe. Description: Up to 6 feet tall

Problem: Plants typically develop impenetrable stands. Causes a disease in horses that permanently damages the animal's ability to control fine motor skills, including mouth and lip movements.

Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*), from Eurasia Description: Green aquatic plant

Problem: Aggressively forms dense stands or large sub-surface mats. Pieces that break off form new plants, making eradication difficult.

Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*), from southeast Eurasia Description: Bushy weeds with white, pink or pale purple flowers atop a spiny bract. Reaches 2 feet tall.

Problem: Usually forms large, dense infestations. Produces toxins that affect other plants, often displacing native vegetation.

Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*), from Western Europe Description: Spiny evergreen shrub, up to 10 feet tall, with yellow pea-like flowers.

Problem: Mature plants, which form thickets, contain flammable oils. Older shrubs develop center of dead material and are highly flammable. Branchlets end as thorns.

Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), from southern Europe, northern Africa Description: Shrubs grow to 10 feet tall, with green stems and yellow to dark red pea-like flowers.

Problem: Forms dense stands that displace native plants and wildlife. Infestations increase fire hazard. Flowers and seeds contain quino-lizidine alkaloids and can be toxic to humans and livestock when ingested. Foliage may be mildly toxic.

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE MISCELLANEOUS

13 SADDLES FOR SALE. Mostly western but some Australian and English too. Jerry Dowdy 831 335-5587 [06-06]

NEVER USED SUPRACOR ENDURANCE PAD which is 28" long. My horse is short backed and I need the shorter 26" long pad. They usually sell for \$245, but I got mine for \$219. Will sell for \$180. This is a great bargain for the New Year and it would be a real shame for someone not to take advantage of this offer! Call Julie Suhr at 831-335-5933. [04-06]

SUPPLEMENTS/HOOF PROTECTION. Wild Eye Arabians is now supplying FASTRACK Probiotics (paste & powder) HOOF -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/wildyearabians. [06-06]

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. [06-06]

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. [06-06]

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. [06-06]

STALLION SERVICES

Introducing CF SORCERER - now standing at stud. Sire of TBR Granite Chief+, 2005 AHA Distance Horse of the Year, 2004-2005 AERC National Mileage Champion and 2004 XP Horse of the Year. Visit his website at <http://www.spanisharabian.net/> or contact Wizard Arabians, Jackie and Jim Floyd, P.O. Box 1045, Lodi, CA 95241, 209-334-1981, typof@comcast.net [-6-06]

JOB OPENING

FREE RENT AND UTILITIES FOR A FULL HOOK-UP CAMPSITE, in exchange for 20 hours of work. Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation is looking for a full-time site host who has horse experience. The site is located in Santa Teresa County Park, in San Jose, CA at the Mounted Ranger Facility. Duties include: feeding, watching over horses, running work crews, general maintenance and public interaction. No horse boarding is available. Please call to schedule an interview. For information call: Senior Park Ranger Julie Gaffney (408) 363-5976 or e-mail at: julie.gaffney@prk.sccgov.org. [04-06]

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 2006 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.

P.O. Box 71

New Almaden, CA 95042