

BENT TREE SADDLE CLUB NEWSLETTER

March 2019

Upcoming Events (continued next page)

Saddle Club Horse Park Cleanup Saturday, March 9th

Please consider coming out to the Horse Park to help with the annual cleanup. We plan to have at least 7 events in the arena this year starting with a Western Dressage demonstration the very next day. We'll be inviting the BT community to this event and it would be nice to have the facility looking at its best.

The current plan is to rake around the perimeter of the arena (need rakes and wheel barrows), paint the entrance sign (that should be fun), organize the storage room and shed (that isn't fun), and some general cleanup around the property.

The back gate will open at 9am and all participants are welcome to have lunch at the 19th Hole courtesy of the club. No reservation is necessary for this much sought-after event.

Rich



Western Dressage Demonstration Sunday March 10th

I am continually amazed at the national level of the talent that exists in our area. One such person is Nancy Conley who won the Western Dressage Level 4 (that's the highest level) Championship last fall in Oklahoma with her horse, Truly Unsurpassed. In addition, Truly Unsurpassed is the 2019 Breyer Horse of the year. Breyer is an internationally known maker of model horses.

Nancy and Truly Unsurpassed will perform their winning dressage routine and then review several members putting their horses through different dressage type gaits. It should be fun and educational. The event starts at 1PM in the arena.

We are inviting the Bent Tree Community to join us for this event and new Stable Master and Chef, Keeve Krasner, will be using our grill to cook hotdogs for the crowd as a fund raiser for the Stables. So come out to watch a National Champion put her horse through the paces; watch your fellow saddle club members be guinea pigs (Kathy Hardin's term, not mine); and enjoy a hotdog for the benefit of the Stables. The event is FREE except for the hotdogs.

Rich



BTSC Horsemanship Saturday March 23rd

We are going to try a new arena event with an emphasis on communication with your horse. Nancy Conley is helping Georgianna and me put the event together. It will be based on dressage, but have our own slant on it.

We're not going to have the strict rules associated with tack and costume. We don't care if you ride English or western. We'll allow for a mix of gaited and non-gaited. Basically, we'll use the beginner test patterns of western dressage and adapt them to our wants. This is what we did with the O-Mok-Sees and it has worked out quite well.

Our plan is to have a judge and, if desired, score the participants. Those who want to compete will let us know at the start and we'll award ribbons to the winners. We also want participants who do the patterns just for the fun of it. Everyone will get 2 attempts at a selected pattern. The pattern to be used on the 23rd will be selected by Nancy at her demonstration on the 10th and will be distributed via email to those of you who want to practice it.

The primary intent for this event to get participation. Whether you like to compete or hate competition grab your horse and spend the afternoon doing something that'll make you feel good. The charge will be \$10 per rider. The back gate will open at 1pm and the event will start at 1:30pm.

Rich

Upcoming Events (continued)

Spring Trailering Trip to Firefly Acres April 5-7

Yipee....Spring is just around the corner!! Our annual Firefly Acres Trailering Trip is scheduled for the weekend of **April 5-7th**. We currently have one cabin available, Fishcamp. You can go to our website to see specifics, but it has a king downstairs and two queens in a 5ft loft upstairs. One bathroom, and a private hot tub on the back deck. It is not pet friendly. Our neighbor Karen is offering her private upstairs queen bedroom/bath for \$75.00 a night. There are two cabins 1.3 miles down our road that if interested, google Cunningham Cabins at Fall Creek Falls for specifics. I believe one of them is pet friendly. Trailer hookups are available for \$15 per night. If any of you want to drive up Thursday to get a head start on the weekend, we will welcome you, but let me know!

Group fun will officially start with lunch in our Pavilion at 12:00 central time on Friday. After lunch we have a special "on property" competition planned, followed by a short local trail ride. For Saturday, Pete will head out to The Bledsoe State Forest, that offers miles of riding trails. It is located 30 minutes away, and the trails are wide and wooded for nice temperatures. Another 1 ½ to 2 hour local ride will be available after breakfast on Sunday.

All meals will be provided and served at our Pavilion. The cost for all meals is \$75.00 inclusive. We will provide water, iced-tea, coffee, and Gatorade... but you will be responsible for anything else you wish to drink. We will be providing all the fixings for a packed lunch for Saturday. Nights will be full of music, visiting, and fun!

Horses will have their own pasture, or share a pasture with their horse friends. We do have two box stalls, and a dry lot for any horses not use to grass. Horse board will be \$10 a night, or \$20 if you need a box stall. As usual, our arena and round pen will be available for anyone to use throughout the weekend!

You do not have to bring a horse to have fun! There are some great hikes, golfing and waterfalls in the area. There is also a "canoe/kayak the Caney Fork" trip which should be gorgeous that weekend! Bluegrass Underground in the Caverns (bluegrassunderground.com/), or the always entertaining and tasteful tour of our local Calf Killer Brewery. Anyone interested give me a call (678) 313-5611. Pete and I always look forward to hosting this very fun and special group of people!!!!

Thanks, Bambi

2019 Dude Ranch Trip

I hope everyone is well and getting some riding in when it's not raining.

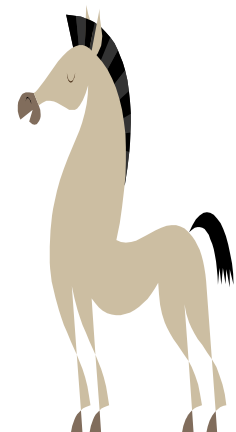
I have checked out a number of dude ranches and these three seem to stand out:

- Triple J wilderness ranch in Augusta Montana: triplejranch.com;
- Bar W guest ranch in Spencer, Montana close to Whitefish and Glacier: thebarw.com;
- Hunewill guest ranch in the Sierra Nevadas close to Yosemite: Hunewillranch.com.

All these ranches have great riding programs, horses, scenery and are easily accessible. Due to their locations we will be going the end of August beginning of September when the weather is good and the weeks are all adults. Please review these choices and if you are interested, either send me an email or call: joannhar-tin@earthlink.net, 404-405-8541.

If there are any other suggestions please let me know.

JoAnn



President's Corner

Well, we're off and running having held the annual Kickoff Party. We had good participation at the event and by the looks of the very short video posted on our Facebook page members had a good time.

As President this year, I'm focused on participation in our events. To help with that the club will have a yearend award to the Most Versatile Horse and Rider. Points will be accrued in each of our arena events and the Montana East Trail Challenge. Claire Eubanks has agreed to assist with the score keeping. The new BTSC Horsemanship events will provide a good counter-balance to the O-Mok-See speed events. The first qualifying event is the BTSC Horsemanship on March 23rd. Take your horse to the Horse Park on that day and enjoy an afternoon with your horse. You won't regret it.

On another topic, we had an Executive Committee meeting last week and discussed the possibility of initiating a fund drive for a UTV. The Stables could really use one and the Club has some need for one as well. A well maintained used one appears to be the way to go. If you know of one that might be available, please let me know. At this time, we are holding off on any type of fund raising until Kieve can tell us what exactly is required for the Stables operation.

Lastly, just a warning, but the Vintage Vixens will be in town on August 10th. The place is going to rock!

Rich

2019 Kickoff Party Recap Saturday, February 16th (see pictures on page 5)

I think that we had a first for the annual kickoff party in that the winter weather wasn't a factor. Because of the venue and entertainment we selected there was no backup plan. Rain, snow, sleet, or whatever, this party was happening and we got lucky.

We had 54 people attend the kickoff at 61 Main and based on the feedback we got it was a very successful event. Kieve Krasner got a rousing reception as the new Bent Tree Stable Master. He described his plans for the Stables operation and solicited the members for help with tack and horses.

Kieve was followed by Nancy Conley, 2018 National Western Dressage Champion, who spoke about her upcoming demonstration at the Horse Park scheduled for March 10th.

Bill Pound provided the entertainment. He is truly a one-man band. Bill led us in a short, but stirring, game of "Name That Tune" won by Steve Brown in a hotly contested playoff against Randy Conley. I am absolutely amazed that people can recognize a song hearing only one or two notes/chords. Our contract with 61 Main was for 6- 9PM. We left at 10pm after an impromptu appearance of the traditional conga line.

Dealing with 61 Main was a pleasure and we may consider doing another event there.

Many thanks to the folks at Hinton Milling who helped to make this event possible.

Janet and I really appreciate the support from the membership and we're already working on the next social event.

Rich

Secretary's Report

Executive Committee Meeting February 21, 2019

The following topics were discussed at the meeting held at Rocco's Pub:

2/16/19 Kick Off Party at 61 Main attended by 49 members and 5 guests; BTSC Insurance Policy status; Membership; developing a new Saddle Club website; and the need to encourage people to join the Saddle Club's Facebook page.

Upcoming events that were discussed included the 3/9/19 Horse Park cleanup; the 3/23/19 new BTSC Horsemanship event; the 8/10/19 Summer Party entertainment by The Vintage Vixens; and the 3/10/19 Dressage Demonstration by Nancy Conley on March 10 which will be a joint effort between the Saddle Club and the Bent Tree Stables. Along with Saddle Club members, Bent Tree residents will be invited to the demonstration where Kieve Krasner will be cooking hot dogs as a fundraiser for the BT Stables. The expenditure of \$350 to cover Nancy Conley's fee was approved.

Quarterly General Meeting February 16, 2019

The informational meeting was held at 61 Main in Jasper during the 2019 Kickoff Party.

54 members and guests were in attendance.

After thanking 2018 President Keith Hunter for his service and introducing the 2019 Executive Committee, Rich introduced and thanked Richie Hancock for Hinton Milling's sponsorship of the event.

Nancy Conley, multiple time World Champion in Western Dressage, spoke about the March 10th dressage exhibition she will hold at the Saddle Club Horse Park: "I think it is time for me to share what I have learned, I believe that our time in the saddle should be enjoyable, fun and safe. This sport is not a live or die situation, it is a retreat from everyday life. It is what makes us better people."

Three BTSC Horsemanship events will be held throughout the year which will incorporate what we learn from the dressage exhibition with informal and fun twists that will provide members an opportunity to compete (or just participate) in events that do not require speed as the O-Mok-Sees do. In order to encourage participants to give this, as well as the O-Mok-Sees a try, an award for the most versatile horse and rider will be presented at the Christmas Party in December.

It was announced that long time Saddle Club member, Kieve Krasner has been awarded the Bent Tree Community Inc.'s stable master contract. Kieve spoke about his appreciation for the support he has already received and the help he will need to get the stables operation back into full swing.

Cathy

News from Bent Tree Stables

So, just let begin with a big thank you to everyone who has expressed to me their sincere congratulations and support for my taking on the job of the Bent Tree Stable Master. The outpouring of "let me know if there is anything I can do to help" has been very gratifying and humbling.

As I begin my new adventure on March 1st, I can assure you that I will call upon many of you to help me out. The collective knowledge within the saddle club regarding running a barn and managing horses is about as good as anyone can get, anywhere.

The number one need I have starting out is drumming up business. Please think about the Bent Tree Stables whenever you come across people looking to board their horse, go out on a trail ride or enroll their children/grandchildren in one of our summer camps.

Every month I will try to include an article in this newsletter to keep you up to date regarding available trail horses, what experience level is expected and any events that your friends can join in on with either a Bent Tree Stables or a Bent Tree Saddle Club ride.

Till then, Happy Trails.

Kieve



Kick-Off Party Recap Photos





The wild horses in Dubois, Wyoming. June 2017

2019 Membership Report

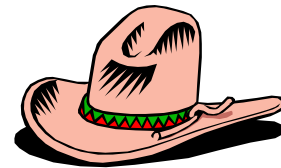
Since my last report I received an additional 26 membership renewals that brought our 2019 membership level to 101 members. Thirteen (13) 2018 members did not renew. I am expecting several new membership applications with the next month or so. If you have any questions or need a membership application form emailed to you for a friend that is interested in joining the club, please call me at 770-757-8596.

Bob

Treasurer's Report 02/21/19

Balance 01/28/19	\$2,841.03
Deposits:	
2019 Member Dues	\$1,310.00
Kickoff Meals and Sponsor	\$1,780.00
Expenses:	
Kickoff Party Expense	\$1,784.06
61 Main, Entertainment, Misc	
Balance 02/21/19	\$4,146.97

Jim



April Newsletter

Deadline for updated event info, articles and photos is **Sunday March 24th.**

Newsletter will go out on April 1st

Send to Email address: k1@earthlink.net

Articles must be a WORD .doc,
and font must be Times new Roman, size 10

Photos must be in **jpeg format.**

2019 Executive Committee

President: Rich Vigue
 Vice-President: Sharon Eikenberry
 Treasurer: Jim Sylvia
 Secretary: Cathy Jones
 BT Liaison: Bob Crowl
 Past President: Keith Hunter
 Past Past Pres. Kathy Hardin
 Appointee: Marianne Torchia

2019 Positions

Membership: Bob Crowl
 Newsletter Ed.: Keeve Krasner
 Email Distribution: Rich Vigue

Visit our website
 at
www.BTSC.info



Join our Group Page on Facebook

March 2019

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

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Horse Park
Cleanup

10

Western
Dressage
Demo

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BTSC
Horsemanship

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March Birthdays: Lisa Sylvia 3/3, Whit Wright 3/4, Leigh Denton 3/13, Georgianna Hunter 3/18,
 Lynn Cates 3/25, Julia Jorns 3/28, Margaret Lonsdale 3/29, Donna Jackson 3/2

BTSC 2019 Calendar of Events

To add event or volunteer contact Rich Vigue at richvigue@ellijay.com or 770-289-7272

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Leader(s)</u>
March 9 Saturday	Horse Park Cleanup	Horse Park	Rich
March 10 Saturday	Western Dressage Demo	Horse Park	Rich & Georgianna
March 23 Saturday	BTSC Horsemanship	Horse Park	Rich & Georgianna
April 5-7 Fri - Sun	Trailering	Firefly Acres	Pete & Bambi
April 13 Saturday	Omoksee	Horse park	Rich
April 27 Saturday	Top of World / Dinner	Horse Park	Rich & Janet
May 4 Saturday	Kentucky Derby (Gen'l Mtg)	Bent Tree Tavern	Rich & Janet
May 11 Saturday	Trailering Ride	Fausett Farm	Claire
May 19 Sunday	BTSC Horsemanship	Horse Park	Rich & Georgianna
June 2 Sunday	Omoksee	Horse Park	Rich
June 15 Saturday	Trail Challenge	Montana East	Rich & Janet
July 4 th Thursday	Jasper Parade	Jasper	Keeve
July 4 th Thursday	Cookout	Horse Park	Rich & Janet
August 3 rd Saturday	Picnic	Jo West's	
August 10 Saturday	Summer Party (Gen'l Mtg)	Beach Pavilion	Rich & Janet
September 14 Saturday	Omoksee	Horse Park	Rich
September 28 Saturday	BTSC Horsemanship	Horse Park	Rich & Georgianna
October 11-13 Saturday	Trailering Trip	East Fork	Jim & Lisa
October 19 Saturday	Horse & Fun Show	Horse Park	Betsy & Claire
November 9 Saturday	Thanksgiving Dinner (Gen'l Mtg)	TBD	Rich & Janet
November 17 Sunday	Trailering Ride	Fausett Farm	John
December 7 Saturday	Christmas Party	Pendley Creek	Rich & Janet



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