



BENT TREE SADDLE CLUB NEWSLETTER

February 2020

Upcoming Events

Annual Horse Park Clean Up Sunday, March 1

Our annual Horse Park workday is scheduled for Sunday, March 1. Plan to meet at the Horse Park at 1 pm and be prepared to spend a good portion of the afternoon. We will focus on getting the arena cleaned up and ready for numerous horse events scheduled this year. We will also clean up areas surrounding the arena, organize our storage rooms, and make sure the trail to the back gate is in good shape. More details will follow in an email as we approach March 1. Mark your calendar. I'm looking forward to a good turnout.

Bob

2020 BTSC Kickoff Party Saturday, February 22nd

This year's kickoff is set for Saturday, February 22nd at Bent Tree's Club Tamarack. The event will start at 6 pm in the Fireside Lounge with a cash bar and Basil Bruschetta and Caprice Skewers as appetizers. We'll move to the Dining Room at 7 pm for an Italian feast prepared by Chef Tulio. The main course will include Baked Vegetable Ziti, Chicken Parmesan, Angel Capella Pasta, and Sauteed Veggies. And, of course, there will be dessert. After dinner, Kathy will conduct a (hopefully) short meeting (hopefully) followed by the Member Horse Slideshow. North Georgia Line Dance will (hopefully) entertain us with some line dancing instruction and play both line dancing music and (hopefully) songs from the 60s and 70s. This should be a (hopefully) fun event.

The cost is \$30/person inclusive. Make your check out to BTSC and mail to BTSC c/o Rich Vigue, 1150 Old Talking Rock Highway Talking Rock, GA 30175. Prepaid reservations are due by Friday, February 14th.

Rich

Membership Renewals Due January 31

2020 Membership Report

In my last membership report I said it looked like we would finish 2019 with 108 members. We actually finished with 110. Prior members Leslie and Bruce Elliott, who joined in December, were not included in the reported count. We welcome them back to the Club. We also welcome Edie Stephens as an honorary member. Edie is the Bent Tree Board of Directors' liaison to the Stables Committee. We look forward to seeing Leslie, Bruce and Edie at upcoming Club events.



Membership renewals for 2020 are coming in at a steady rate but we have a long way to go in the next 2 weeks. As of today, January 12, we have 43 members signed up for 2020, less than half of the number we had at the end of 2019. I'm expecting quite a few renewals the week of January 13. Renewal applications for 2020 are due by January 31, 2020. Your renewal is necessary by this date in order to continue receiving Club emails and future newsletters. Our 2020 membership application form is at the end of this newsletter. Your prompt renewal, if not already submitted or in the mail, would be appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Bob

Spring Trailering Trip to Firefly Acres Friday, April 10 to Sunday April 12

I know that it is hard to imagine warm spring breezes, and candlelight dinner under the Pavilion at Firefly Acres....but, that is exactly what is right around the corner! Our annual trailering trip is scheduled to take place Friday, April 10th-12th, with the bravest of adventurers arriving a day early. If you are looking to book a cabin or trailering spot, give me a call!

Prices and schedules will stay the same. \$10.00 per horse per night, and \$20.00 per night for trailer hookups. \$75.00 per person will cover all meals, including water, Gatorade, tea and coffee. BYOB for wine, beer and anything stronger. For those who have special dietary needs and want to bring their own food, that price will be defrayed. Give me a call at (678) 313-5611, if you have any questions! More to follow.

Bambi



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



I just stopped by to tell you that Kathy is on vacation.

Oh, she just checked in with me.
Look at that; they're both smiling.



BTSC Christmas Party Recap Saturday, December 7th

Approximately 50 members made it to the annual Christmas Party held on Saturday, December 7th at Pendley Creek Stables. The main dishes of meat loaf and chicken tenders were catered by the Tavern at the 19th Hole. Many thanks to Dave Eubanks who set up a satellite dish so that we could watch the SEC Football championship on the stables' large screen.

We were not able to watch the year in review slide show due to some unanticipated technical difficulties. However, as of this writing the Youtube version of the slide show has been viewed 96 times. That's pretty good for a saddle club video. The party started at 6 pm and most people had retired by 9 pm, except for the usual suspects who shall remain nameless. I don't remember exactly who, but someone started a rousing game of Thumper. The total lack of discipline and devil may care choosing of one's personal sign on the part of a few of the contestants is an excellent example of the effects of alcohol abuse. I may not play this game again until the next time. Year-end 2019 awards were presented to the following people:

Service Award – Keith Hunter
Volunteer Award – Jan Lorenzen
Spirit Award – Claire Eubanks
Most Versatile Horse Award – Dance
(Claire Eubanks owner)

Rich

Secretary's Report Executive Committee Meeting on December 19, 2019

This year there will be two Ad Hoc Committees:

1. Social - Rich & Janet Vigue will manage all social events with the exception of the Christmas Party which will be up to Kathy Hardin.
2. Equestrian - Claire Eubanks will oversee these events but requires a specific manager to be in charge of planning and set up of each event.

The Calendar was finalized by the committee. Jim Sylvia will put it online and Bob Cowl will reserve the horse park for the whole day of each event. Educational series dates are reserved based on speaker availability. Suggestions for speakers are forthcoming. Play Date/Trail rides will be organized by Kathy Hardin.

Apparel order options were discussed. Caps (with velcro backs), mugs, denim shirts and vests were items that the committee thought members would be most interested in. Area vendors will be contacted for ideas, samples and minimum order requirements. The goal is to have order sign-up sheets available at the kickoff party.

Rich & Janet Vigue reported that the Kick-off Party will be held in Bent Tree at Club Tamarack with Chef Tulio assisting with the meal, a cash bar and live music for entertainment. The committee approved \$500 of BTSC funds for the Kickoff Event.

Rich Vigue also reported that booking negotiations for the Summer Party entertainment by the Vintage Vixen is pending. The committee approved \$500 of BTSC funds for the Summer Party.

Rich Vigue reported that Bent Tree now requires Bent Tree Public Safety to open the back gate before events.

Ronda

2020 Most Versatile Horse Competition

What is the “Most Versatile Horse” competition?

Bent Tree Saddle Club is sponsoring the Most Versatile Horse competition again this year to foster more participation in horse events. Points are given at each mounted event where ribbons are awarded. The horse earns the points regardless of who is riding the horse.

This year, we’ll be conducting O-Mok-Sees, horsemanship classes, a Fun Show, an Obstacle Course competition, an Extreme Trail Challenge, and a Horse Show. While each event will stand on its own, each will have points towards an overall championship. The horse that performs best with a combination of looks, speed, temperament, communication with rider, and training should win the year long competition.

Last year we had 24 horses compete in our events for the year. Let’s have more as we have quite a full calendar planned. Monthly point totals will appear in the newsletter.

Questions? Contact Claire at ceshuman51@hotmail.com or cell phone (770) 265-9425.

Claire



The 2019 winner is Dance, owned by Claire Eubanks. Let’s give Claire and Dance a run for their money in 2020.



News from Bent Tree Stables

Email: k1@earthlink.net

Well, I now know it's true, what everyone who has ever had shoulder surgery has said about it. It is certainly brutal, painful and a long recovery. And, as if that is not enough of a challenge, trying to manage your life and also manage a 19-horse riding and boarding stable, then throw into the mix having to part ways with your barn manager. That was the last thing I wanted and the last thing I expected to have to deal with at this time of recovery.

I find myself now overwhelmed not in crisis, but in gratitude and appreciation for everyone from the Bent Tree Community and the Bent Tree Saddle Club who stepped in to help me in my time of need. There were those who came to my house to stay with me and care for my pain, those who brought me food, those who stepped up to lead trail rides and those who helped with managing the horses and doing chores at the barn.

And so I say many, many thanks to Jan, Libby, Pat, Susan, Tristan, DJ, Janna & Chris Feldt, Debi, Mandy, Rachel, Taylor, Roberta, General Manager Tom Fowler and especially Bob Crowl whose help and support was constant and unwavering.

I miss riding my horses,

Keeve



The wild horses in Dubois, Wyoming. June 2017

Treasurer's Report 01/14/20

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Balance 12/24/19 | \$1,105.92 |
| Deposits: | |
| Membership | \$ 900.00 |
| Expenses: | |
| 2020 Summer Bash Entertainment | \$ 200.00 |
| Balance 01/14/20 | \$1,805.92 |

Jim



Hey, hay!
Don't forget the Horse
Park cleanup on March 1

Just a note from Leslie

Hello Old Saddle Club Friends! I have completely resigned from Angels on Horseback and am looking for a good local farm to board/pasture board my 2 horses. They are 20 & 25-year-old geldings, have been lesson horses for children and are extremely laid back and easy.

I plan to continue riding and hope there are lots of trail-rides with you all in my future! Call, email with any ideas about where there might be room to board. 770 355-5726 or lbeatl@tds.net

I look forward to seeing you all soon!

Leslie Elliott

March Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for updated event info, articles and photos is **February 26**

Newsletter will go out on March 1st

Send to Email address: richvigue@ellijay.com

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

Photos must be in **jpeg format**.

2020 Executive Committee

President: Kathy Hardin
 Vice-President: Marianne Torchia
 Treasurer: Jim Sylvia
 Secretary: Ronda Erway
 BT Liaison: Bob Crowl
 Past President: Rich Vigue
 Past Past Pres. Keith Hunter
 Appointees: Bill Stara
 Leslie Elliott

2020 Positions

Membership: Bob Crowl
 Newsletter Ed.: DJ Suberk
 Email Distribution: Rich Vigue
 Website Admin: Jim Sylvia

Visit our website
at

www.BentTreeSaddleClub.com



Join our Group Page on Facebook

February 2020

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------------|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 Kickoff Party |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

March 2020

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|---------------------------------|-----|-----|----------------|
| 1 Horse Park Cleanup | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 Local Ride | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Play Day or Trail Ride | 26 | 27 | 28 Fun Show |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

BTSC 2020 Calendar of Events

To add event or volunteer contact Kathy Hardin @kathardin39@gmail.com or 404-218-6360

| Date | Event | Location | Leader(s) |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| February 22, Saturday | Kickoff Party | BT Club Tamarack | Rich & Janet Vigue |
| March 1, Sunday | Horse Park Cleanup | Horse Park | Bob Crowl |
| March 15, Sunday | Local Ride ? | | |
| March 20-22 | Road to the Horse | Louisville, KY | Not Club sanctioned |
| March 25, Wednesday | Play Day/trail ride | Horse Park | Kathy Hardin |
| March 28, Saturday | Fun Show | Horse Park | Claire Eubanks |
| April 4, Saturday | Omoksee | Horse Park | Rich Vigue |
| April 10-12, Weekend | Trailerling | FireFly Acres | Pete & Bambi Dillingham |
| April 22, Wednesday | Play Day/trail ride | Horse Park | Kathy Hardin |
| April 26, Sunday | Local Ride | Top of Word | Rich Vigue |
| May 2, Saturday | Derby Party | TBD | Rich & Janet Vigue |
| May 6, Wednesday | Play Day/trail ride | Horse Park | Kathy Hardin |
| May 16, Saturday | Brunch Ride | Prince Home | Vigues/Kathy Hardin |
| May 30, Saturday | Omoksee | Horse Park | Rich Vigue |
| June 13, Saturday | Trail Challenge | Montana East | Rich & Janet Vigue |
| June 27, Saturday | Obstacle Competition | Eubank's Farm | Claire Eubanks |
| July 4, Saturday | Parade | Downtown Jasper | |
| Cookout | | Horse Park | Rich & Janet Vigue |
| July 6, Monday | Lake Swim | Lake Tamarack, BT | Claire Eubanks |
| July 11, Saturday | Educational Series | Horse Park | |
| August 1, Saturday | Educational Series/Gen. Mtg. | Horse Park | |
| August 8, Saturday | Heat of the Summer Party | BT Beach Pavilion | Rich & Janet Vigue |
| August 15, Saturday | Picnic | Lake Lanier | Jo West Jo West |
| September 12, Saturday | Horsemanship | Horse Park | Jan Lorenzen |
| September 16, Wednesday | Play Day/trail ride | Horse Park | Kathy Hardin |
| September 19, Saturday | Local Ride | Prince Cabin | |
| September 26-27 weekend | Equitana | Louisville | Not Club sanctioned |
| September 30, Wednesday | Play Day/trail ride | Horse Park | Kathy Hardin |
| October 1-4 weekend | Trailerling Trip | TBD | Lisa & Jim Sylvia |
| October 14, Wednesday | Play Day/trail ride | Horse Park | Kathy Hardin |
| October 17, Saturday | Horse Show | Horse Park | Claire Eubanks |
| October 28, Wednesday | Play Day/trail ride | Horse Park | Kathy Hardin |
| November 1, Sunday | Trailerling Ride | Chickamauga | |
| November 7, Saturday | Omoksee | Horse Park | Rich Vigue |
| November 14, Saturday | Thanksgiving Dinner | TBD | Rich & Janet Vigue |
| December 12, Saturday | Christmas Party | Pendley Stables | Kathy Hardin |



Need Bookkeeping Help?

Call Janet

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Contact: Joan Heiser
jcheiser@frontiernet.net



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Enjoy trail riding along clear crisp mountain streams, a rushing waterfall, cross the shoreline of Lake Tamarack, up and down gentle mountain slopes and through naturally preserved forests. Experience the outdoors as nature intended it to be.



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