



## BENT TREE SADDLE CLUB NEWSLETTER

June 2020

### Upcoming Events

#### Omoksee Saturday, June 6 at 10am

The horse park is OPEN! We are having our 1<sup>st</sup> Omoksee of the year on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. We will start the event at 10am and the back gate will open at 9:30 to let trailers in. This is a BYOE (Bring your own everything) event meaning please bring your lunch to eat between events as well as a chair to keep distance.

The cost to participate is \$10. We will run five events including the three standard runs as well as two mystery events. Please bring a current coggins. Let me know if you plan to participate or have questions. Contact info: text/call 770-265-9425 or ceshuman51@hotmail.com. I will need a head count for the back gate

*Claire Eubanks*



*The giant pothole is fixed!*

#### Top of the World Ride Saturday, June 13

I will be leading a ride from the Bent Tree Saddle Club Horse Park to the Dubose property on Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. This is a special ride that's done only once or twice a year. Many thanks to the Dubose family for allowing us to ride across their beautiful property. Bent Tree personnel will open the back gate at 10am – and close it at 10:05am - and we'll hit the trail from the Horse Park at 10:30am. Pack a lunch and anticipate that we'll be back at the Horse Park around 2:30 – 3pm. Please consider joining us and let me know if you will be coming through the gate at 10am by calling or texting me at 770-289-7272. This will be our first organized trail ride in the social distancing era. Let's keep in mind that social distancing is de rigueur du jour. To that end, don't hug me when you see me. Don't shake my hand. Don't invade my space. Just wave to me from afar. That'll do just fine.

*Rich*



*Just Arrived*

#### Fun Show Saturday, June 27

The Fun Show is ON! This show was scheduled during Covid-19 and the arena at the horse park is now OPEN. The Fun show promises to be a great time with you and your steed. We will start the show at 10am and the back gate will open at 9:30 to let trailers in. This is a BYOE (Bring your own everything) event meaning please bring your lunch to eat between events as well as a chair to keep distance.

The events are still being narrowed down but promise to bring smiles. Horses may be led in hand for all but one event so if you want to get a new horse experience come and PLAY! Some possible events could include egg and spoon, poker play, phonebook search, boxer race, water gun shoot out, ride a buck, musical feed sacks, water balance, and laundry hangout. We will narrow the events down to five for the day, and you may pick which events you want to do. The cost to participate is \$10 for all or one event. Please bring a current coggins. Let me know if you plan to participate or have questions. Contact info: text/call 770-265-9425 or ceshuman51@hotmail.com. I will need a head count for the back gate.

*Claire Eubanks*



**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

Yippie Ki Yay! That's a term John McClane used in the Die Hard series, and it doesn't actually mean anything except it's used as reference to an exclamation used by Cowboys in the old times. I'm using it because I'm excited that Bent Tree has finally raised most restrictions, and we are once again able to utilize the Horse Park. The 6-foot social distancing is still required, so we will need to be particularly careful when we are in the pavilion or judges stand and bleachers. So, put on your cowboy hat and boots and head over to the Horse Park so we can catch up on some fun times.

You will need to review the calendar, particularly the month of June. You will notice a lot of changes, which include some events that were to occur during March and April that are moved to June and cancellation of other events. Our first event will be the O-Mok-See on June 6, and each week-end thereafter will have an event. Read the article about Western Dressage very carefully, as Jan and Georgianna have been working hard to make it a fun and educational activity to better you and your horses' riding abilities. The Trail Challenge will not take place in June, but we are hoping to reschedule for possibly in November. To fill that slot, Rich Vigue is trying to put together a trail ride that I know most of you have enjoyed in the past. Claire Eubanks will be putting on the Fun Show at the end of the month.

As you perform a thorough review of the calendar, notice that there are several events that do not have leaders. This entails organizing and leading the event and writing newsletter articles to detail the event. Contact me if you have an interest in helping-out. Contact info: kathardin39@gmail.com or 404-218-6360. This is your Club, and we need support from all of you to keep it fun and exciting. Without leaders, we don't have events!

Unfortunately, our 2020 year has been shortened regarding Saddle Club activities, but I hope that you have used the extra time to ride and get your horses in good riding condition so they come flying out of the chute to take advantage of all the great things we have planned for this year! We will be making up for lost time. Stay healthy and I look forward to seeing all of you at our events and on the trail!

*Kathy Hardin*

**Saddle Club Communications**

Over the years the Saddle Club has increased the number of communication channels it uses to keep the membership informed of what's going on. When we first started some 29 years ago we had the monthly newsletter – paper based of course and snail mailed to the membership. Margaret Lonsdale was an early editor of the newsletter. About half way through her term an acronym known by only a few of the informed and not suitable for sharing started appearing on the envelopes. It was a very time consuming job.

When the internet became widely available we moved to using PDFs and email for newsletter distribution and a club website for those who have nothing better to do. At the same time we established an Email Distribution position to send club info on a more timely basis than once a month.. This position is doable by one individual for a couple years max before one's attitude takes a deep dive. The primary reason for this is that as the digital postmaster you get tired of people responding to you instead of the one who originated the email. Joan Heiser can explain this phenomenon to you in detail.

A few years ago, we established the Club's Facebook Group Page. This is a platform whereby individual members can communicate directly with other members. That just seems like a great idea. Lisa Sylvia has bought into this. As a matter of fact, she is the most prolific poster on that page. Unfortunately no one else is even in second place. When it comes to our Group Page, it seems we are all lurkers. At last, I have arrived at the point of this article. We are all horse people and many of us are active trail riders. The next time you're thinking of riding somewhere why not invite other saddle club members to join you? Even if it's a spur of the moment type decision. Who knows, but another member might not have plans and would enjoy the ride. The Facebook Group Page could be a very useful communications channel. Of all the communication channels we have this is the least used, but has the most potential to foster camaraderie and a close knit club. Don't just post on your horse do some posting on our Facebook page.

*Rich*



*Hey, Hay, Let's get together to ride.*

**Secretary's Report – Executive Committee Meeting  
May 21, 2020**

Calendar modifications and future events will be based on horse park availability, distancing restrictions and venue restrictions with members safety of utmost importance. Final dates for Omoksees, Western Dressage Events, Trail Challenge and Obstacle Competition will be forthcoming. The Prince Brunch Ride and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade are cancelled. The Summer Party and Kentucky Derby Parties may be cancelled due to venue restrictions. See Newsletter updates and BTSC Facebook site for calendar updates.

*Ronda*

## Western Dressage Spring 2020

Jan Lorenzen and I are proud to introduce Western Dressage 2020. We are starting off with an educational session about Western Dressage. We have gathered information from the introduction of Western Dressage Clinic in 2018, and the most recent Train the Trainer clinics. Just last week Extra Blue Angel and I placed in our first Western Dressage competition in Cartersville, Georgia.

Jan has loads to offer, as a competitive English Dressage Student and years teaching students the art of dressage. She has mentioned to me numerous times how she enjoys the judging to help, give back and to see the improvement between horse and riders.

Many thank to the Bent Tree committee for approving the cost of our education book. We will be going over the information of this book June 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the horse park.

At that session we will go over the following information:

1. What is Western Dressage
2. Dressage glossary, which is good for interpreting judge's comments.
3. Equine Biomechanics helps with how your horse moves.
4. Why your seat is so important.
5. Scoring
6. Learning the arena and the geometry to help assist in the patterns.
7. We will go over instructions for the day of show.

Some pf the member who are participating are JoAnn Hartin, Kathy Hardin, Claire and Elise Eubanks, Julie Williams, Rich and Janet Vigue, Ronda Erway, Lesley Elliott, Arabella Wunn and Libby Adams as scribe.

We have scheduled a formal practice June 18<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at the horse park.

We will need help pulling off this series of three events:

Rake the arena  
Open back gate  
Setting up arena the night before show  
Handing out ribbons  
Clean up in and around arena and trailers. NO MESS WILL BE LEFT BEHIND

Summary  
June 14<sup>th</sup> education night horse park 7pm  
June 18<sup>th</sup> practice 6pm  
June 19<sup>th</sup> set up arena at 6pm  
June 20<sup>th</sup> BT back gate opens at 9:30, Show begins at 10:15.

If you are interested in joining on the fun contact  
Jan Lorenzen at 678-603 -8252 text only or Georgianna Hunter 678-449-6214 text only or email [ghunter@etcmail.com](mailto:ghunter@etcmail.com)

Please understand that Jan and I are not certified to educate, train or otherwise. We simply want to help bring this new event to the club.

*Georgianna*





This is usually the month where I plead to the saddle club for volunteer help during the annual event called Youth Fest. Well, this is the first time since its inception over 25 years ago that Youth Fest has been cancelled due to the Covid-19 situation. The organizers felt that they just could not satisfactorily comply with all of the social distancing and other guidelines issued by the State of Georgia to make it work for the hundreds of kids expected to participate. So, for all of you volunteers that usually come down and help out, thank you and enjoy the hiatus.

That said, however, my work at the stables shall go forward with summer horse camps and other activities to fill up the gap left by the absence of Youth Fest. I can do this because I can stay within the guidelines by limiting camps and other activities to groups of 20 kids or less. Not sure yet about the format for the "other activities" that will take place during the Youth Fest week, but please keep us in mind and call us if you would like to help out.

Also, please be aware that the stables has reserved the Horse Park Arena for the mornings (8:00 am to 1:00 pm) on each day (Monday thru Friday) of the following weeks when we are hosting our summer camps and other activities:

June 15 – June 19

June 29 – July 3

July 13 – July 17

July 20 – July 24

Though we may not use the arena every one of those days, please call me before you come to see if it will be free for you to use.

Business has definitely picked up at the stables. We are taking out a ton of trail rides and doing some lessons and arena rides. So remember to call the stables if we can hook up you or a friend with a horse ready to hit the trails. Email: [k1@earthlink.net](mailto:k1@earthlink.net)

Happy trails (I hope and pray),

*Keeve*



### **Little Rascal**

Rascal is currently interviewing for a job at the Bent Tree Stables. An 11-year-old Quarter Horse rescue, he is a finished free running barrel racing horse. Just an all around sweet boy who is willing to learn. His references come from Taylor who knows his former owner. She says he is very willing and loving and will make many hearts happy.

Come down to the barn and check him out. So far, he seems to fit in with our herd and obviously, Taylor is smitten. I think his chances of being hired are pretty good.

*DJ*



*The wild horses in Dubois, Wyoming. June 2017*

### **Treasurer's Report 05/25/20**

Balance 04/20/20 \$ 2,649.84

**Deposits:**

Membership \$ 80.00

Clothing Payments \$ 28.00

**Expenses:**

Balance 05/25/20 \$ 2,757.84

*Jim*

### **July Newsletter Deadline**

**Deadline** for updated event info, articles and photos is **June 27**

Newsletter will go out on July 1st

Send to Email address: [dj.suberk@gmail.com](mailto:dj.suberk@gmail.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	2020 Positions	
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	Membership: Bob Crowl Newsletter Ed.: DJ Suberk Email Distribution: Rich Vigue Website Admin: Jim Sylvia	Visit our website at <a href="http://www.BentTreeSaddleClub.com">www.BentTreeSaddleClub.com</a>
		Join our Group Page on Facebook

# June 2020

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

	1	2	3	4	5	6 O-Mok-See
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Top of the World Ride
14 Western Dressage Mtg. Evening	15	16	17	18 Western Dressage Practice Evening	19	20 Western Dressage Show
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Fun Show
28	29	30				Cookout



### 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)
June 6, Saturday	Omoksee	Horse Park	Claire
June 13, Saturday	Top of the World Ride	Horse Park	Rich
June 14, Sunday	Western Dressage Mtg.	Horse Park	Jan/ Gigi
June 18, Thursday	Western Dressage Practice	Horse Park	Jan/Gigi
June 20, Saturday	Western Dressage Show	Horse Park	Jan/Gigi
June 27, Saturday	Fun Show	Horse Park	Claire
July 4, Saturday	Cookout	Horse Park	Rich & Janet Vigue
July 6, Monday	Lake Tamarack Swim	Bent Tree	Claire
August 15, Saturday	Picnic	Lake Lanier	Jo West
September 5, Saturday	Derby Party	Club Tamarack	Rich and Janet
September 10, Thursday	Western Dressage Practice	Horse Park	Jan/Gigi
September 12, Saturday	Western Dressage Practice	Horse Park	Jan/Gigi
September 16, Wednesday	Play Day/trail ride	Horse Park	Kathy Hardin
September 19, Saturday	Local Ride	Prince Cabin	(Leader??)
September 26-27 weekend	Equitana	Louisville	Not Club sanctioned
September 30, Wednesday	Play Day/trail ride	Horse Park	Kathy Hardin
October 1-4 weekend	Trailering Trip	TBD	(Leader??)
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	Trailering Ride	Chickamauga	(Leader??)
November 7, Saturday	Omoksee	Horse Park	Rich Vigue
November 14, Saturday	Thanksgiving Dinner	TBD	Rich & Janet Vigue
November 21, Saturday	Montana East Trail Challenge	Talking Rock	Rich & Janet
December 12, Saturday	Christmas Party	Pendley Stables	Kathy Hardin





**Need Bookkeeping Help?**

**Call Janet**

**770-893-8175**

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Contact: Joan Heiser  
[jcheiser@frontiernet.net](mailto:jcheiser@frontiernet.net)

*Success  
comes a little bit  
at a time*



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