

## Club News / Past and Upcoming Events

### Chickamauga Battlefield Ride 10/9

The ride at Chickamauga Battlefield is an eight mile loop trail of mostly rolling countryside, some wooded and some open fields. There are some gravel paths and a stream crossing going under the entrance bridge. Many battlefield monuments are scattered throughout the park, so it is a great ride to expose young horses to a strange landscape. We will be riding the red trail, which goes around most of the park. If anyone wishes a longer ride there are several side trails.

We will meet at the battlefield horse trailer parking area on October 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am and plan to ride out by 11. Bring a lunch as we will stop about half way around and eat, being sure to social distance. Let me know by October 6<sup>th</sup>, if you are coming.

If there are any questions, Janis Butt, who will be leading the ride, can be reached at 423-884-2760 (home) and (cell) 865-247- 9135.

#### Directions

Travel to I-75 N toward Chattanooga. Stay on I-75

· Take the GA-2/Battlefield Parkway exit, EXIT 350, toward Ft Oglethorpe. Go 0.25 miles.

· Keep left to take the ramp toward Ft Oglethorpe/COVENANT COLL.

· Then 0.02 miles

· Turn left onto Battlefield Pkwy/GA-2. Then 6.47 miles

· Turn left onto Lafayette Rd.

Continue one mile into the park and go past the visitor center. You will come to Dyer Road on the right, which has a log cabin on the corner. Turn right and follow Dyer until it comes to a T. Go across the intersection and into the gravel horse parking area.

### STABLES WORKDAY 9/25

The Bent Tree Stables is having an organized workday on Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. Please consider coming to the stables that morning to help us get some important chores accomplished and enhance the appearance of the barn and property. Some of the necessary chores include:

- Replace/fix fence boards
- Clean gutters
- Fix stall hardware
- Clean up paddock areas
- Pressure washing
- Clear rocks blocking paddock gates
- Cleanup around the office building
- Clean the grill
- Remove and spray overrun weeds
- Trail maintenance and more . . . .

Please meet at the barn at 9:30am with your coffee and work gloves. We'll provide the donuts. Call or email me if you're willing to help.

Keeve Krasner  
404-285-4848  
btstables@etcmail.com

#### 2021 Executive Committee

President	Bill Klenk
Vice President	Judie Uchitel
Treasurer	Julia Jorns
Secretary	Ronda Erway
Bent Tree Liaison	Bob Crowl
Past President	Kathy Hardin
Past Past President	Leslie Elliot
Appointee	Alicia Klenk
Appointee	Rose Rhys

#### 2021 Positions

Membership	Bob Crowl
Newsletter Editor	Jim Sylvia

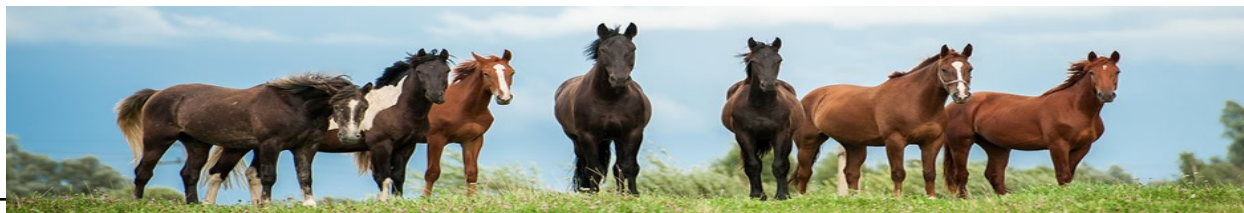
### FIREFLY ACRES—SOLD!

Howdy Howdy! Pete and Bambi have officially sold Firefly Acres and bought a Horse Boarding Facility in beautiful Horse Shoe NC. We had originally hoped to host the Saddle Club the last weekend in September, but have realistically changed that to October 28-31. We live among some of the prettiest trails in the South East. Both DuPont Forest and Pisgah National Forest are within a 25 minute drive. We have 12 available stalls and a few paddocks where horses can stay. Our facility has both indoor and outdoor arena's, with the majority of our boarders specializing in reining. The cost to board is \$25.00 per night. We also have two hookups for trailers with living quarters, first come first serve at \$25.00 per night.

The downside is we don't have rental cabins, or a commercial kitchen. You would have to rent a hotel or find a VRBO/AIRBNB. That being said The Holiday Inn Express in Brevard is fairly new (I think a couple years) (828)348-8745, The Comfort Inn and Suites is the closest to us (828)862-8900, and The Hampton Inn is the second closest at (838)883-4800. They all need a minimum of 9 rooms to give a price break, and as of today rooms are between \$175-\$200 per night. October is prime season. All include Breakfast. I would be willing to cook one of the dinners, and I could look into a private room at a couple local restaurants.

Anyone interested in coming, give me a call to reserve your horses stall or paddock! We would love to show off our new town and riding trails. More to follow in the next newsletter. Thanks Bambi (678)313-5611

Harmony Mountain Equine  
442 Blantyre Church Rd  
Horse Shoe NC 28742



## Past Events Recaps

### OMOKSEE 9/19

September, 19<sup>th</sup> at 10am

We are getting ready for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Omoksee of the year! 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 if desired.

The cost to participate is \$10. We will run 5 events including the 3 standard runs (pole bending, batons, and tomahawk balls) as well as two mystery events. Please bring a current coggins if you are not in the database.

I will need riders to assist in the running of the event. We will need help in the judges stand, set up of the event, help in between events, and take down. If you plan to ride, you will be asked to help.

Contact info: text/call 770-265-9425 or ceshuman51@hotmail.com. A head count for the back gate is necessary prior to the event. See you in the saddle soon!  
~Claire Eubanks

### August Newsletter Deadline

**Deadline** for updated event info, articles and photos is **Sept. 26th**

Newsletter will go out on  
**October 1st**

Send to **Email** address:  
jim.sylvia3@gmail.com

Articles must be a WORD .doc,  
FONT Type Arial—Font Size 10

### LAKE LANIER PICNIC

Many thanks to Jo West for once again hosting the picnic at her home at Lake Lanier. The weather couldn't have been better and the water was a pleasant temperature for simply floating around while visiting with other horse enthusiasts.

This is a joint event with CTHA and sorry to say, they outnumbered BTSC in attendance. Tours around the lake were provided with a spacious pontoon boat and many took the Wave Runners out for a spin. Ham and chicken were provided by CTHA and numerous delicious side dishes and desserts were contributed by people attending. BTSC provided paper and plastic ware along with drinks and ice. A wonderful time was had by all!

Kathy



### LAKE LANIER PICNIC





### Treasurer Report July 27th to August 26th

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$3,327.00</b>
Checks Written:	
30th Ann favors	\$ 334.00
30th Ann venue bal	\$ 450.00
Lake Lanier supplies	\$ 56.00
Show ribbons	\$ 146.00

Deposits:	
30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary party	\$2,840.00

**Ending Balance** **\$5,181.00**

Julia Jorns



### 2021 Membership Report

The Club's membership level remained at 105 as of the end of August. If you know anyone interested in becoming a Club member, please have them contact me at 770-757-8596. I am looking forward to seeing you at upcoming Saddle Club events.

Bob



### The Horse Biz

Cost of ownership. It's the biggest factor that is facing the equine industry today. When looking at the trends this industry is experiencing, the stress of costs are one of the biggest influences on breed transfers and membership trends right now.

Just a decade ago, there were virtually no stress factors related to equine ownership. Since then, every cost associated within the equine industry has seen stress factors related to cost rise above 50% for at least a 2 year period in every major category. This is what is leading to fewer active equine owners in the United States.

### Where Horse Ownership is Popular in the United States

- Texas has the largest horse population in the United States. It's the only state with more than 1 million horses.
- California has the second largest horse population at 700,000.
- Florida comes in third, with 500,000 horses registered.
- Oklahoma, Kentucky, and Ohio all have more than 300,000 horses respectively registered within their borders.
- Missouri, North Carolina, Colorado, and Pennsylvania round out the top 10 of states with largest horse populations, with each one having more than 250,000 horses.
- It is estimated that there are currently 1.8 million horse owners in the United States.
- Women above the age of 45, married, and employed full-time are the most likely to own at least one horse.
- Horse owners generally have an HHI above \$50,000.
- 85% say that they are recreational riders of their horses. Only 30% participate in competitive events.
- 7% of horse owners report that they are professional trainers.

1 in 4 horse owners believe that the equine industry is improving. That's the same number which believes that the equine industry is getting worse. Horse ownership still has pockets of popularity, but with pending legislation, an increased number of training techniques deemed to be unacceptable, and a greater public awareness of horse welfare, the costs of owning a horse are getting higher. This is placing a great strain on the industry right now.

There have been some encouraging signs within the equine industry, especially within the Quarter Horse ranks. Yet the breeding situation has shown that there has been a long-term decline in the industry for quite some time. This doesn't necessarily mean that there are fewer events being held or lower purses being offered. It just means that there are fewer members and fewer horses getting involved in the large events on an overall basis. It may also mean that some owners may be not registering their horses as they did in the past.

## Secretary's Report

Bent Tree Saddle Club - Executive Committee

Consolidated Meeting Minutes 8/19/21

Introduction of New Appointee – Rose Rhys  
Calendar

### Recap of recent events:

CTHS/BTSC Lake Party – fun day but low BTSC attendance.

### Up-coming Events

30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party – Leslie Elliott reported

92 people signed up so far with max of 100 permitted

COVID safety provisions being considered to keep members safe

Catering coming from Atlanta

BYOB means Bring Your Own **Beverages – non-alcoholic** like water/soda in addition to beer/wine. Members are permitted to bring coolers if they so choose. A message will be sent to ensure those invited are aware of this.

Decorating committee is in need of 16 Equestrian items to be used as table centerpieces for the event. Anyone that has something they can lend out for the event should contact Leslie Elliott.

This meeting will be considered a General Meeting; Bill Klenk will lead the meeting at the beginning of the event.

Firefly Acres Trip – Kathy reported

Business has moved near Brevard, NC and has been renamed Harmony Mountain Equine.

The Dillingham's have requested that the date be changed to October 28-31<sup>st</sup> which would require changing the Chickamauga trip. This change was approved and Kathy Hardin will speak to Janice Butt to see what alternate weekend would work for her. There are stalls for horses but no facilities for people to stay or eat on the farm so alternative accommodations and restaurants will be required for the trip.

### New Business

Kathy Hardin and Claire Eubanks discussed how many ribbons should be ordered: enough for 2021 calendar only OR 2021/2022 calendar? Committee prefers to order 2021 only, as 2022 calendar has not yet been determined.

Kathy Hardin asked if there was any interest in ordered BTSC pens or gift items? Although there was discussion about the possibility of ordering apparel, there was currently no interest in smaller items.

Christmas Party plans – Bill Klenk reported that although Pendley Stables will most likely be the location; nothing further has been planned.

General meetings - 2 more required; committee determined that the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter meeting will be the Anniversary Party and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter meeting will be the Christmas Party.

Discussed request by member for non-member advertising in the newsletter. Jo West made request to Kathy Hardin about non-member advertising. As this is not Club policy, the committee recommended that a small newsletter article be written about the experience with the business she would like to recommend.

Proposed EC volunteers for 2022 was presented by Kathy Hardin.

President – Judie Uchitel

Vice-President – Claire Eubanks

Secretary – Ronda Erway

Treasurer – Julia Jorns

BT Liaison – Bob Crowl

Arena fence repair and possible pedestrian opening were discussed by Kathy Hardin. Stable students were going through the wires which has knocked post staples out; Stablemaster will be repairing. Discussed pedestrian adding a pedestrian entrance so this doesn't happen again; committee felt that this was not needed at this time.

Leslie Elliott reported that Angels on Horseback donated RAMM fencing to replace some of the arena fence; an article will be placed in the newsletter to see if there is any interest in helping with this upgrade.

Stilt grass eradication was discussed by Dara Sinclair, a guest speaker from the BT Lake & Wildlife Committee. This is an annual grass that flowers and seeds every September and is considered invasive. The committee wants to work with other groups to aide in this task and given the amount that grows around the arena area, they are also requesting BTSC assistance. As horses like it, Bill Klenk suggested having 'horse snack times' when BTSC members can gather in places that need to be eaten down. A 'Snack Time' was planned for August 28<sup>th</sup> at 11am at the Spillway where the grass grows.

Response to recent email that was circulated to the membership was discussed. As no one in the BT EC know of any problems that currently exist, the EC unanimously agreed that no further action needs to be taken.

Respectfully submitted, Ronda Erway

**Bent Tree Saddle Club – 2021 Membership Application**

(Payable to Bent Tree Saddle Club)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Reg (\$40) \_\_\_\_\_ (First member must be a regular membership for \$40)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday(MM/DD) \_\_\_\_\_

**Bent Tree Affiliation****Are you a Bent Tree property owner? (Y) (N)**      **Do you board a horse at Bent Tree Stables? (Y) (N)****Are you a Bent Tree Lot Designee? (Y) (N)**      **Do you rent a home in Bent Tree? (Y) (N)**2<sup>nd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ Reg (\$40) \_\_\_\_\_ Social/Non-Rider (\$20) \_\_\_\_\_ Under 18 Youth Rider\* (\$40) \_\_\_\_\_3<sup>rd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ Reg (\$40) \_\_\_\_\_ Social/Non-Rider (\$20) \_\_\_\_\_ Under 18 Youth Rider\* (\$40) \_\_\_\_\_**DUES AND SIGNED ACKNOWLEDGMENT, NOTICE AND RELEASE (below) MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION.**New member 2021 dues are effective October 2020 through December 2021. Renewal dues apply to the calendar year. Mail application & check to: **Bent Tree Saddle Club, C/O Bob Crowl 181 Grassy Knob Ct. #20326, Jasper, GA 30143****ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, NOTICE AND RELEASE**

THE UNDERSIGNED does hereby, for himself, his heirs, executors and administrators acknowledge that the activities engaged in and/or participated in are covered by the Official Code of Georgia Annotated 4-12-1 through 4-12-5 and that **Bent Tree Community, Incorporated and Bent Tree Saddle Club** are **Equine Activity Sponsors** as contemplate thereunder and further acknowledge that he has received the **Warning** as required in OCGA 4-12-4 (Warning required effect of failure to comply with notice requirement). The warning is as follows.

**WARNING**

**Under Georgia law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activity, pursuant to Chapter 12 of Title 4 for the Official Code for Georgia Annotated.**

I acknowledge and fully understand that Equine Activities and particularly "Trail Rides" and cross-country horseback riding over obstacles, steep and rough terrain and with unknown riders and horses can be dangerous activities. I wish to participate in these activities knowing they can be dangerous. I accept and assume all the risks of injury (including death) to my horse, my property and me. Members of the Bent Tree Saddle Club will not knowingly ride on private property without the property owner's prior consent. When I do ride on private property I do so at my own risk. Use of protective helmets is recommended. If I choose to ride without a helmet, it will be at my own risk.

Should I require medical assistance for any reason during any Equine Activity and not be in position to obtain, request or authorize such treatment at the time, I hereby authorize the Equine Activity Sponsors to obtain such medical treatment or emergency care as they may deem necessary or desirable and I agree to hold the Equine Activity Sponsors harmless with regard to any such emergency care or expenses arising therefrom.

The Equine Activity Sponsors do not condone the drinking of alcohol or taking of drugs at Equine Activities. If you are taking any drugs or medications that might affect your ability to participate in any Equine Activity or otherwise do not have the experience, knowledge, or ability to participate in any Equine Activity, please do not participate.

**Club activities you are interested in leading/supporting. Please circle all that apply and include within circle the letter L (lead) or S (support) to indicate preferred role.**

\* Trail Rides      \* Social Events      \* Equestrian Events      \* Arena/Trail Workdays      \* Newsletter      \* Echo Articles  
\* Facebook Posts      \* Email Distribution

**Acknowledged and agreed:**

1: Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

2: Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsor Members' Signatures – 2 sponsors are required (only for new applicants who are not Bent Tree Affiliates)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\*Youth Memberships are for those under the age of 18 as of the date of the application who are members of the household of a Full Member.



Join our Group Page on Facebook

Visit our website

at

[www.BentTreeSaddleClub.com](http://www.BentTreeSaddleClub.com)

Password=BTSCMEM

# September 2021

# Sun

**Mon**

**Tue**

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 30th Anniversary Party
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Omoksee @ Horse Park	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
		* NO HORSES				



## **BTSC 2021 Planned Calendar of Events**

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

2021 Date	Weekday	Event	Location	Leader
September 11	Saturday	30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party – Vintage Vixens	The Lodge @ Old Mill	Vigue's/Sylvia's/ Dillinghams
September 19	Sunday	Omoksee	BT-HP	Claire Eubanks
September 25	Saturday	Bent Tree Stables Workday	BT-Stables	Keeve
October 9	Saturday	Trailing Ride	Chickamauga	Janice Butt
October 16	Saturday	HORSE SHOW	BT-HP	Claire Eubanks
October 23	Saturday	Slims Obstacle Course Trip		Judie Uchitel
October 28-31	Friday—Sunday	Harmony Mountain Equine	Horse Shoe NC	Pete & Bambi
November 6	Saturday	Local Ride		Kathy Hardin
December 4	Saturday	Christmas Party	Club Tamarack	Bill Klenk



**Need Bookkeeping Help?**  
**Call Janet**  
**770-893-8175**

**Lisa Sylvia**  
 Agent

PalmerHouse Properties  
 5755 North Point Pkwy #16  
 Alpharetta, GA 30022  
 Office: 404-876-4901

Mobile: 770-401-8333  
 LisaSylvia3@gmail.com  
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**Pete & Bambi Dillingham**  
 931-946-7383  
[www.FireflyAcres.com](http://www.FireflyAcres.com)



Photography by Jena Finley

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[jcheiser@frontiernet.net](mailto:jcheiser@frontiernet.net)

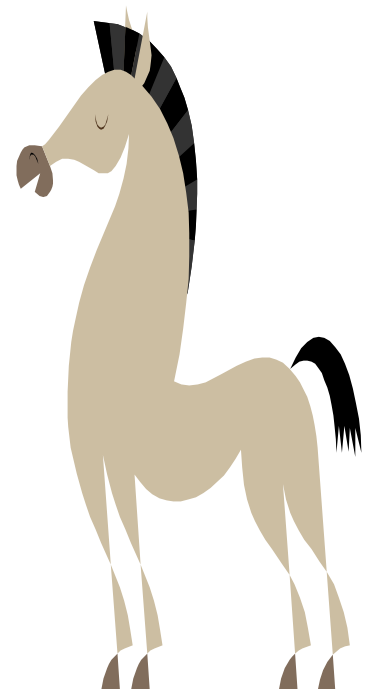
*Success*  
*comes a little bit*  
  
*at a time*



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