

BENT TREE SADDLE CLUB NEWSLETTER

June 2023

Upcoming Events

Hillside Farm's 2nd Annual Trail Challenge June 3rd (Rain Date June 4th)

As many of you know, the Vigue's hosted the Montana East Trail challenge for quite a few years. What a blast they were. Jim & I are hosting the event for our second year here at our beloved Hillside Farm! It takes plenty of planning, preparation, and arduous work to pull this off, so I'm counting on the riders that have committed to show up and show out! Plus anyone who wants to come cheer on our riders, please let me know ASAP if you plan to do so.

RIDE DETAILS: I'd like to make special mention that this trail challenge is a JUST FOR FUN EVENT! While we do have a 1-5th place winner based on time, many people come just to enjoy the camaraderie with friends & fellow horse lovers. While those competing for a time are required to ride alone, you are not required to ride for a time. Once the timed riders go off, other riders may go out just to enjoy the course, and some buddy up with another rider as well. We can time you or not – strictly your choice! All are welcome to ride a second time around after all riders have been through once.

DAY OF EVENT: June 3 - Arrive between 10-10:30am. First riders off about 11:00AM.

ADDRESS: 641 Hamrick Road, Talking Rock, GA 30175 – use GPS (We are 9 ½ miles west of Hwy 515 & 53. We are half mile past Hinton, turn left on Hamrick Road, then go ½ mile on Hamrick, drive is first asphalt driveway on left – Someone will be there – gate is at the road – don't go up driveway.

THE COURSE: Will be between 2 – 2.5 miles. This ride is a combination of open pastures & woods & maybe some small surprises along the way! We even set up a few small jumps that may be enjoyed or skipped easily without going off course. Due to this ride being on private property & due to insurance issues, all competing riders must be 18 years of age or older. Children ages 10-18 may ride the course for fun at the end of the competition and must be escorted by parents / grandparents.

T-SHIRTS: We are also planning to order T-Shirts. Price not exceed \$20.00. They are upgraded Comfort Colors fabric T-Shirts and will have our logo on them. Need to know ASAP who wants one. Just email me with your size – LisaSylvia3@Gmail.Com

Email with shirt design to follow soon.

COOKOUT: We will have some sort of pot-luck or cookout immediately following ride. Details to follow.

CURRENT RIDERS: Claire Eubanks, Bobby Delay, DJ Suberk, Judie Uchitel, Liq Quigly, Deb Ligget, Rich Vigue, Cindi McLeod, Sandy Stevenson, Gigi Hunter, Romelle Goldman, Beth Gordon, Joy Hawks, Seth Kirk, Connor Browning, (Honorary young riders – Elise Eubanks, Rose Rhys, Macey Cook, Charlie Ewing).

VOLUNTEERS: Betsy Robbe, Carol Ewing, Joyce Delay, Keith Hunter, Chuck Ewing, Bob Crowl

In closing, we currently have 18 riders and have closed the participant event. If you wish to be a backup rider for cancellations, please email ASAP. If you want to volunteer, could use 1 or 2 more – email me.

SPECTATORS: Want to come for the fun of cheering friends and riders, just let me know via email. We will have a few tables/chairs placed around the property that provide good viewing for a portion of the course. Please come and enjoy the day with us!

ANY QUESTIONS: Email @ LisaSylvia3@Gmail.Com

See you all in June!

Lisa

Jake Mountain Ride June 22nd

This will be a joint ride with CTHA. Plan to be ready to ride out from the Jake Mountain parking lot at 11am. This leisurely ride should take approximately 3-4 hours. We can ride out as one unit or divide into smaller groups. Whatever your preference. A spot will be designated where we can all rendezvous for a group lunch break. Reservations are not required, but it'd be good to let me know if you plan on riding so we don't leave from the trailhead without you. If you have any questions, I can be reached at 770-289-7272.

Rich

Youth Fest July 3, 5, 6

Bent Tree Stables is urgently seeking volunteers to help with Youth Fest this July 3, 5 & 6. We need arena ride leaders and logistical support people for about 3-4 hours each of those mornings. Please call or text me at 404-285-4848 to let me know when you would be available. Thank you.

Keeve

Also in this Newsletter:

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Kentucky Derby Party Recap Saturday, May 6th

Whenever you host a theme party you worry that your guests may not really care about the theme. As the 5 o'clock start time for the Kentucky Derby party was approaching, I was standing in the Fireside Lounge near the windows looking out toward the parking lot when I saw Mr. and Mrs. Kentucky Derby walking down the long walkway to the club. In that Kentucky Derby hat, Carol Ewing looked like she could have been an owner of one of the horses running in the Derby. Walking alongside her was Chuck dressed like the stereotypical racetrack tout that you see in the movies. Wow. I was no longer concerned about the attendees buying into the theme.

In 1905 Henri Matisse did a very famous painting of his wife wearing a hat. Summoning all of his creative juices he named the painting "Woman With a Hat". She would have fit right in with the female attendees at the Kentucky Derby party. The effort and creativity put into the hats worn at the party was amazing and appreciated by the host. Mary Page wore a hat that had a statuette of Secretariat in it. Julie Uchitel had miniatures of a horse and a zebra in hers, and Lisa Sylvia wore a hat with Aristides, the winner of the first Derby, spelled out in big letters. Any of those hats as well as other beautiful hats could have been the winner of the hat contest. But, once again, the winner was Georgianna Hunter. To say that she has a lock on this contest is an understatement. She just keeps on winning this thing year after year. I think the only way to beat her is to invite Tonya Harding to be a contestant at next year's party. Judie Uchitel was the winner in the betting. She was the only one to bet on Mage and her \$5 bet returned \$70.

My thanks to everyone who came and to the Bent Tree staff who dressed up the lounge with our Kentucky Derby decor and served delicious hors d'oeuvres. Fortunately we have 20 members who still enjoy having a good time, and a good time it was.

Rich



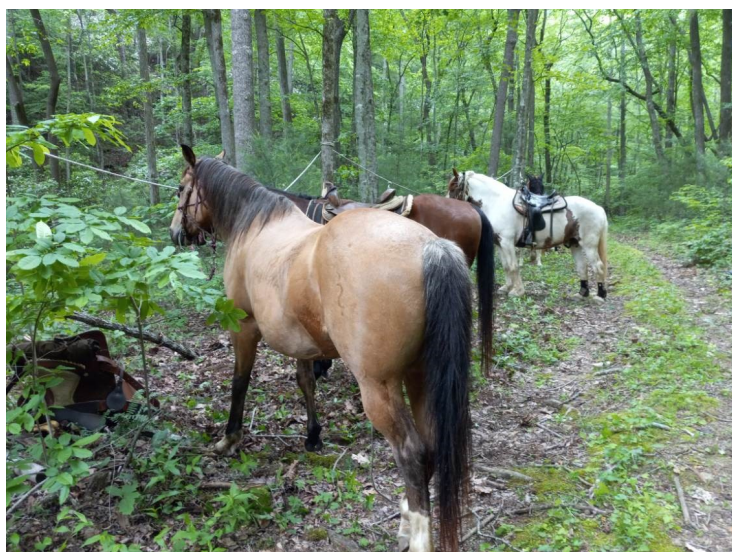
Prince Farm Ride Recap
Saturday, May 20th

On Saturday, May 20th, a posse of 7 assembled at the BT Stables. They were the brave ones that were willing to ride despite a possibility of rain but they were all equipped with rain gear just in case the skies turned into showers. If you are wondering why we left from the Stables instead of the Horse Park it is because Keeve Krasner's crew wasn't at the Horse Park at the designated time so the rest of the group was gracious enough to pick them up on our way out to the trails.

Even though Sandy Stephenson and I previewed the trails earlier in the week, there was always a risk of fallen debris or branches and bushes that I swear grow at least 3 inches a day this time of year. Other than that, there were only a couple places along the way where we had to squeeze around knee knockers or duck our heads under fallen trees while hanging off the side of our horses like acrobats. Well, it couldn't have been too bad because we didn't have to call 911 and I never saw any blood. Maybe a couple bruises.

After watering horses in Champion Creek we headed out on the final leg of our ride. The mountain laurel were in full bloom on the other side of the creek and all the way to the Prince homestead where we were met with barbeque pork sandwiches and potato salad, personally delivered from the Bent Tree Tavern by Jason and Judie Uchitel. Several of the Prince family members joined us for lunch. After much conversation we mounted our trusty steeds and headed back up the trail. All seven riders made it safely back to Bent Tree. Thank you Martha and family for hosting us at your beautiful home!

Kathy



April 26th EC Meeting called to order by Judie Uchitel at 6:36 p.m.

Attendees: Judie Uchitel, Sandy Stephenson, Bob Crawl, Beyonca Padgett, Bobby Delay, Joyce Delay

1. Minutes

Bob made a motion to approve EC minutes from 3/22/2023. Judy seconded.

2. Treasurer's Report

Joyce Delay reported that the old balance was \$2,877.50. The new balance is \$2,952.50. We received \$40 from a membership renewal and \$35 for a Kick-Off Dinner ticket.

3. Membership Report

Bob Crawl reported that membership remains the same at 79 members for 2023.

4. Agenda Items

- a) Set a new workday – The workday is rescheduled for Saturday, 9/30/2023.
- b) Calendar items for upcoming events – reviewed next few events to see if any details need to be addressed now. \$140 was requested for the Kentucky Derby Party for the bartender and prize for the best hat. Bob made the motion and Judie seconded it. All approved. See Item F for 2 events that needed discussion.
- c) CTHA's insurance company has added BTSC to their insurance at no extra cost. BTSC's insurance company had already added CTHA at no cost as well.
- d) Pavilion Roof – Repair will begin at the end of next week. The final action plan was to repair the half of the roof that needed it, as opposed to the entire roof.
- e) Arena weeds – They're baaack. ☹️ Judie is checking with Randy Erway to see when we can utilize the tractor to have it sprayed again before the fall.
- f) Martha Prince Farm Ride and Sylvia's Trail Challenge – Martha Prince Farm Ride menu is set. Judie has arranged pulled pork and potato salad. Cost is \$12/person, and the food will be delivered. BYOB. Payment will go to Judie. Details will be in the newsletter. Sylvia's Trail Challenge – Preparations are being made. Lisa Sylvia sent information regarding having T-shirts made that will have the BTSC logo and Hillside Farm Trail Challenge on them. Judie made the motion to move forward with that and Joyce seconded it. All approved. There was further discussion regarding having shirts made for BTSC at some point this year. Judie and Beyonca are getting quotes from vendors.
- g) Clinic with Andrea Koschich – Sandy reported that Andrea agreed to host a clinic – just let her know what date. August 12th was agreed on. Sandy will ask Andrea to confirm this date is doable. Other potential clinics were discussed including one hosted by a veterinarian to teach equine emergency aid. Another option is having a clinic taught by Josh Littlejohn.
- h) Discussion regarding Judie placing article about the BTSC in The Echo magazine, possibly June issue.
- i) Joyce is contacting Claire to discuss a date to hold Omoksee.

Next Meeting - 5/24/23 @ 6:30 p.m. at The Cottage

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m. Respectfully submitted by: Beyonca Padgett, BTSC Secretary

Kochish Clinic Sunday, August 20th

Andrea Kochish will be doing a clinic at the Bent Tree Horse Park on Sunday August 20th. She is a young, exciting, and very talented trainer with her own style of Natural Horsemanship. Sandy Stephenson is organizing this event and further details will be available shortly. Mark your calendars now. Give Sandy a call or text her if you have any questions at 706-669-9021.



Margy Lohman December 13, 1942 - May 3, 2023

Danny Tomas, the television actor and founder of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital once said that there two kinds of people in this world: Givers and Takers. I know he'd definitely put Margy in the Giver category. A long time member of the Saddle Club, she founded Prevent Child Abuse Pickens in 1995 and affected the lives of hundreds of underprivileged children in the 18 years that she ran the non-profit. Pictured above is Margy with her daughter Kelly Byers at the club's 2008 Kickoff party. She and the whole Lohman/Byers family were major contributors to our club's activities for many years. Margy will be missed by all of us who were fortunate enough to know her.

Rich

Membership Report

The Saddle Club 2023 membership count remains at 79 members. Our 2023 membership application is attached to this newsletter. If you know of someone interested in joining our Club, please have them complete an application and provide it to me for processing. If they have any questions, they can call me. My cell phone number is 770-757-8596. We have a fun year planned. I am looking forward to seeing you at upcoming events.

Bob

Bent Tree Saddle Club Treasurer's Report

5/24/2023

Prepared by Joyce DeLay, Treasurer

Beginning Balance			\$2,952.50
Debits			
Date	Check #	Description	Amount
5/6/23	1175	Kentucky Derby Party Food	(\$514.00)
5/6/23	1176	Rich Vigue (Flowers for Derby Hat Prize)	(\$ 26.75)
5/24/23	1178	Judy Uchitel (Prince Ride Food)	(\$192.00)
TOTAL Debits			(\$732.75)
Deposits			
5/24/23		Derby Party	\$414.00
5/24/23		Prince Ride Food	\$192.00
TOTAL Deposits			\$606.00
Ending Balance			\$2,825.75

2023 Executive Committee	2023 Positions	
President: Judie Uchitel Vice-President: Ronda Erway Treasurer: Joyce Delay Secretary: Beyonca Padgett BT Liaison: Bob Crowl Past President: Bobby Delay Appointee: Sandy Stephenson	Membership: Bob Crowl Newsletter Ed.: Rich Vigue Email Distrib: Ronda Erway Website Admin: Jim Sylvia	Visit our website at www.BentTreeSaddleClub.com
	 Join our Group Page on Facebook	

June 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2	3 Hillside Farm Trail Challenge
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Jake Mountain Trail Ride	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

BTSC 2023 Calendar of Events

Below is a proposed agenda of events and is subject to change. Please refer to it throughout the year. Each newsletter will highlight the upcoming events and give recaps (including pictures) of previous months' events.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Leader(s)</u>
June 3, Sat.	Hillside Farm Challenge	Hillside Farm	Jim & Lisa Sylvia 770-401-8333
June 22, Thur.	Jake Mountain Ride	Jake Mountain	Rich Vigue 770-289-7272
July 3, 5, 6	Youth Fest	Bent Tree Stables	Keeve Krasner 404-285-4848
July 4, Tue.	July 4 th Parade	Jasper	TBD
July 23, Sun.	Pot Luck Dinner	Horse Park	TBD
August 20, Sun	Andrea Kochish Clinic	Horse Park	Sandy Stephenson 706-669-9021
September 5, Tue.	EC & Gen'l Meeting	TBD	Judie Uchitel 404-226-0287
September 16, Sat.	Chickamauga Ride	Chickamauga Military Park	Ronda Erway 402-540-3338
September 21, Thur.	Jake/Bull Mtn Ride	Jake/Bull Mountain	Sandy Stephenson 706-669-9021
October 7, Sat.	CTHA Fun Horse Show	Tralyta Farms, Dahlonega	CTHA
October 22, Sun.	CTHA/ Cohutta Ride	Jacks River	Erma McCain 706-867-7134
October 28, Sat.	Fausett Farm Ride	Fausett Farm	Ronda Erway 402-540-3338
November 5, Sun.	Stara Memorial Ride	Garland Mountain	Rich Vigue 770-289-7272
December 2, Sat.	BTSC Christmas Party	TBD	Judy Uchitel 404-226-0287

Lisa Sylvia

Agent

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Photography by Jena Finley

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Bent Tree Saddle Club – 2023 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)

2nd: _____ Reg (\$40) _____ Social/Non-Rider (\$20) _____ Under 18 Youth Rider* (\$40) _____

3rd: _____ 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 2023 dues are effective October 2022 through December 2023. 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

Do you own a horse trailer? Yes No (please circle one)

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.