

BENT TREE SADDLE CLUB NEWSLETTER

July 2023

Upcoming Events

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

Saddle Fit & Body Work Clinic Wednesday, July 5th

Many of you have experience with Vicky Toporek. She has done saddle fitting and body work for many of us in the club. I contacted her about coming to Jasper to do some body work on my horses and things grew from there to a group offering for members of BTSC.

Vicky is waiving her trip fee. Fees for her services are as follows:

- \$50 for saddle fitting only (note that if your horse has muscle atrophy or other issues created by poor saddle fit, it will necessitate body work to release those muscles so that proper saddle fit can be done.
- \$75 for evaluation with body work, massage, stretching, adjusting;
- Add \$25 for saddle fitting
- Magnawave PEMF is an additional \$50 (added to the \$75 for body work)

Vicky Toporek, LMT, CNMT, CKTP, CESMT is the owner of Flying Angel Farm Enterprises, LLC and owner of U of the Horse U rode In On. Vicky is highly experienced in professional saddle fitting for all disciplines including English, Western, Trail and Endurance. She is a leading

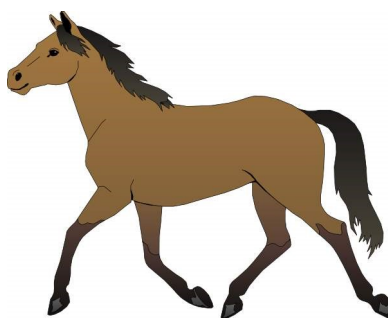
expert at saddle fitting and saddle evaluations, as well as adjustment and total replacement of English wool flocking and billet replacement.

She is also experienced in body work with humans, horses and dogs. In her work with horses, Vicky addresses issues such as muscle injury, pain relief, disuse and pain atrophy, muscle spasms, nerve damage, edema (stocking up), EPM and West Nile rehab, conformation muscular issues, leg injuries, wound care, arthritic pain range of motion, TMU alignment, poll pain, hip pain, SI joint and sweeney.

She is certified in Magna Wave PEMF, Neuromuscular Therapy, Kinesio Taping, Bamboo Fusion Massage and Hot Stone Massage. More importantly for our horses, certifications in Equine Sport and Rehabilitation Therapies include Magna Wave, Functional Electronic Stimulation, Moxabustion, Cold Laser, Tui Na and Saddle Fitting.

Anyone is welcome to come and observe-always interesting and entertaining! We are close on the number of horses and participants, but if you are interested, please just text me at 678-612-3217. It is hard to predict time since some will take 30 minutes and others could take 3 times that long. Since Vicky lives 2 hrs away, we will probably not start until around 10:00 but details will be provided via email before the event as we will have to determine the schedule based on the number of participants.

Judy Heilman



EC & General Meeting Potluck Dinner Sunday, July 23rd

On July 23, the saddle club will host a pot luck dinner at the horse park. The Executive Committee will hold a short meeting beginning at 5:00 p.m. The pot luck dinner and general meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share and provide your own beverage. The saddle club will provide plates, napkins, and silverware. I hope to have a good turnout of the membership. Once again, this is a good opportunity to catch up with friends from the club you have not seen for awhile. Please RSVP to Judie Uchitel at wolferjudie@gmail.com or at phone #404 226-0287.

Judie

Also in this Newsletter:

President's Column	Page 2
Editorial	
August Dillingham Clinic	
Thank You Note	
On a Personal Note	
Hillside Farm Recap	Page 3
May 24 EC Minutes	Page 4
June 28 EC Minutes	Page 5
Margy Celebration of Life	Page 6
Record Keeping	
Fridge Calendar	Page 7
Annual Calendar	Page 8
Member Advertising	Page 9
Member Application	Page 10

President's Column

The Bent Tree Saddle Club (BTSC) has several events coming up in the next few months, please check the revised Calendar in this issue and plan to attend these events.

Once again, an event (July 4, parade) was cancelled due to lack of participation. This situation is not good for BTSC. Those of us on the board are trying to keep the club going but the board is made up of 7 people and we can only do so much. The BTSC needs everyone to participate, social and riders alike. Please plan on attending the events outlined in our Calendar.

On July 23, the BTSC will hold a pot luck dinner at Horse Park. Before the dinner, the Executive Committee will hold a short meeting at 5:00 p.m. The pot luck dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m. This will be our 3rd general meeting for the year. See details later in this newsletter.

Pete Dillingham has agreed to come and hold a seminar on August 26. There will be more details at a later date.

Claire Eubanks has graciously agreed to put on an Omoksee on October 28. We need a good turn out of participants and helpers for this event to be a success. It has always been one of the favorite events of the year and everyone has a good time. The Executive Committee hopes this will not be the last one.

Once again, I repeat in order for BTSC to survive we need member participation at every level. If nothing more, please come and cheer on your favorite rider.

Judie

THANK-YOU

The saddle club would like to acknowledge Randy Erway who for the 2nd year in a row has sprayed the arena. This is a big job and one that the saddle club appreciates.

The club would also like to thank Bob Crowl who keeps the arena dragged.

Judie

Editorial

This editorial is in lieu of a recap on the Thursday, June 29th ride at Jake Mountain. That ride consisted of one rider (me) and 2 horses (Socks and Fat Boy). It was a very nice day and a very pleasant ride. But, being alone, it gave me plenty of time to muse on various things. About 2 hours into that 3 hour ride it dawned on me that I hadn't come across anyone else – no horse people, no bikers. There were two bikers in the parking lot getting ready when I rode out, but I never came across them on the trail.

In my opinion, these trails are the best I've ridden in the southeast. They are really good, but they're not getting much use by horse people – an observation I made by the lack of manure on the trails. Rather than lose them to the bikers we need to put something together to reinvigorate the horse people in the use of these trails. I have an idea.

Let's establish a group of riders who will ride at Jake/ Bull and maybe occasionally at another National Forest venue every Tuesday or Wednesday or Thursday of the week. If that's too much let's pick the same day (i.e., the first Thursday of the month) every month to ride there. By riding mid-week we'll avoid much of the biker traffic. We need to name the group and collect dues that we'll donate to those trails.

I've already thought of the name for the group. Let's keep away from the term "backcountry" since there are at least four "Backcountry of" this or that in Georgia. Instead, we'll co-opt from Australia its nomenclature for the wilderness area, "the Bush". We could call ourselves the Bush Riders of North Georgia. I already have our slogan – Ride the Bush! It's simple – its longest word has only four letters, but it's real catchy. And I have a sense that this slogan will attract younger members. This is a real winner. What say you? Opinion pieces welcomed.

Clinic & Dinner in the Park Saturday, August 26th

Editor's Note: The Dillinghams are coming to town on August 26th. Mark your calendars now. Pete will conduct a 2 hour demonstration with a young horse and Bambi is cooking brats and hotdogs. This is going to be the Horse Park event of the

year! Details will be in the August newsletter.

A message from Pete:

Why do we dedicate so much time, emotion and dollars to our horses? Because we are "horse lovers" and it's hard to ignore this passionate gift. What we seek is a safe partnership with our animals..... and we want a meaningful bond with this wonderful creature. The building blocks of a quality relationship (human or animal) are: communication skills, understanding motives (psychology), establishing values (manners) and respect. The art of Natural Horsemanship accomplishes these goals. **WANTED:** a 2 - 4 year old horse with little handling to best illustrate the common sense ground game techniques of starting a young horse. If you have a candidate horse that fits this description, please submit your candidate's name, it's background and age to: Pete Dillingham, Natural Horsemanship via email to harmonymountainequine@gmail.com.

On a Personal Note

As a note from one of the newer members and Secretary of the club, aside from the Hillside Farm Trail Challenge, attendance and participation this year has dropped even more than last year. If we continue on this course, it's highly likely the club will cease to exist next year and this 30 year legacy will be gone with it. We are now halfway through the year. We have 6 months to see if enough people want to continue to have a horse community in Bent Tree (aside from the Stables). My cell phone is 770-685-4613. I welcome every member to call me anytime with requests or ideas to keep this thing going.

On a personal note, I have not had the opportunity in my adult life to get back into horses until I moved here. Riding horses is literally my life's dream and I just got to start pursuing it again. I am willing to do anything that will help - including manual labor (and have already). I do still work full time though so I can't give unlimited hours to it, but I promise you I will be there every chance I get. I am turning 50 years old this year and I was hoping being a part of this club would be the highlight of my next 50 years.

Thanks, Beyonca

Hillside Farm Trail Challenge Recap
Saturday, June 3rd

This year's trail challenge proved a success for the second year in a row! The weather was fantastic with warm sunny blue skies. We had 18 rides with 15 riders (some rode two horses).

The course was 2 ½ miles and included open pastures as well as three separate loops in the wooded trails. This year we started off with trailer loading, mounting, and then the riders headed off on the course. There was also an obstacle course in the arena which entailed requiring your horse to weave three poles, step over a tarp, pass a flag, trot low pole, squeeze through noodles and back about 20 feet through rails. The time limit for the obstacle course was 2 minutes and amazingly ALL horses made it through in less than maximum time. What excellent horses and riders we have.

A cookout with Burgers/Dogs and Bubba Q sides were provided by the club, with Jim doing all the cooking! A fine day for horse-loving camaraderie! A special thanks to all our volunteers this year – Keith Hunter, Bob Crowl, Joyce Delay & Beyonca Warkentein, Carol & Chuck Ewing, and especially Julie Heinsman and Betsy Robbe for collecting entry fees/t-shirt money, release forms and keeping all the timers straight for all the riders.

The Winners of the trail challenge are as follows: First Place - Claire Eubanks (Lilly), Second place - Joy Hawks, Third place – Claire Eubanks (Starlite), Fourth place – Arabella Wunn (Rusty) and Fifth place Rose Rhys (Candy).

A special note – We had five riders under 18 this year and it sure is nice to watch them thrive as they have grown in their riding abilities thanks to parents and grandparents that have fed their equestrian desires.

Lisa

Editor's Note: Go to www.BentTreeSaddleClub.com and click on Youtube to view an excellent slideshow of the event (~150 pics). Below are the two best pictures as selected by Lisa's friend, Carleen Duff. She has good taste.



Bent Tree Saddle Club - Executive Committee
May 24th Meeting Minutes

Present:

Judie Uchitel, Sandy Stephenson, Ronda Erway, Bob Crowl, Beyonca Padgett, Bobby Delay, Joyce Delay

Meeting called to order by Judie Uchitel at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes

Bob made a motion to approve EC minutes from April 2023. Bobby seconded.

Treasurer's Report

Joyce Delay reported that the current balance is \$2,825.75.

Membership Report

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

Agenda Items

- a) Arena weeds – Randy offered to treat the arena again for weeds.
- b) Sylvia's Trail Challenge – Everything is organized and in good shape.
- c) T-Shirts – Lisa has found a vendor and is having shirts made.
- d) Andrea Koshich, trainer, will be at the Horse Park August 20th for a clinic. Discussion regarding serving hot dogs for the clinic.
- e) Discussed construction of the Horse Park and agreement with Bent Tree regarding Saddle Club use and maintenance.
- f) August 5th – There will be an EC meeting and a General Meeting. We need to have a discussion over future of the club.
- g) Discussion regarding donation of \$100 to CTHA to help with costs for trail maintenance at Jake and Bull. Judie made a motion to approve. Beyonca seconded the motion. All voted and approved.
- h) Discussion regarding changes to the calendar.

Next Meeting - 6/28/23 @ 6:30 p.m. at The Cottage

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Beyonca Padgett, BTSC Secretary

Bent Tree Saddle Club - Executive Committee
June 28th Meeting Minutes

Present:

Judie Uchitel, Sandy Stephenson, Ronda Erway, Bob Crowl, Beyonca Padgett, Joyce Delay

Meeting called to order by Judie Uchitel at 6:27 p.m.

Minutes

We discussed approving the minutes from May and realized that I had mistakenly not sent them. It was other items I had sent, but not the minutes. I will send immediately after the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Joyce Delay reported that the current balance is \$2,549.33.

Membership Report

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

Agenda Items

- a) Natural Horsemanship Clinic - Rich Vigue is talking to Pete Dillingham regarding an August 26th clinic at the Horse Park. The committee supports this initiative and will consider requests for financial backing.
- b) Claire has agreed to chair an Omoksee on October 28th.
- c) Fausett Farms ride has been cancelled due to closure of the trails.
- d) Bent Tree Newcomer Fair is Saturday, July 15th. Discussed that we should have someone represent BTSC at the fair. Beyonca volunteered. Judie will also if scheduling allows. Discussed items / information to have on hand. Hopefully this is an opportunity to gain new members.
- e) Set a date for the obstacle course – November 18th was decided.
- f) There is a former member who requests access to our Facebook page. The committee approved granting Facebook access to Rosemary King. The committee will act on any request for Facebook access.
- g) Recruitment of new members - Discussed having an Open House / Membership Drive. Need to recruit more riding members as riding participation has dropped off.
- h) Judie will start painting the jumping poles on the morning of July 15th. Ronda, Beyonca, and Joyce volunteered to help as well. Any other volunteers from the club would be appreciated.
- i) Review of 2023 Calendar. We made several updates to the calendar and Judie will be issuing a new one.

Next Meeting - 7/23/23 @ 5:00 p.m. at the Horse Park. Followed by a General Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Beyonca Padgett, BTSC Secretary

Long time members of the club have many memories of being with Margy. Here's an opportunity to share some of them.



Membership Report

The Saddle Club 2023 membership count continues to remain at 79 members as of the end of June. 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. During the next 6 months we have a number of fun events on our calendar. I hope to see you at many of them.

Bob

Bent Tree Saddle Club Treasurer's Report

6/28/2023

Prepared by Joyce DeLay, Treasurer

Beginning Balance			\$2,825.73
Debits			
Date	Check #	Description	Amount
6/2/23	1179	Trail Challenge T-shirts	(\$462.24)
6/2/23	1180	Donation to CTHA	(\$ 100.00)
TOTAL Debits			(\$562.24)
Deposits			
6/2/23		Trail Challenge	\$285.84
TOTAL Deposits			\$285.84
Ending Balance			\$2,549.33

2023 Executive Committee

President: Judie Uchitel
 Vice-President: Ronda Erway
 Treasurer: Joyce Delay
 Secretary: Beyonca Padgett
 BT Liaison: Bob Crowl
 Past President: Bobby Delay
 Appointee: Sandy Stephenson

2023 Positions

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

July 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
2	3 Youth Fest	4	5 Youth Fest Saddle Fit & Body Work	6 Youth Fest	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 EC & Gen'l Mtg Potluck Dinner	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

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>
July 3, 5, 6	Youth Fest	Bent Tree Stables	Keeve Krasner 404-285-4848
July 5, Wed.	Saddle Fitting Clinic	Horse Park	Judy Heilman 678-612-3217
July 23, Sun.	Potluck Lunch/EC & Gen'l Mtg	Horse Park	Judie Uchitel 404-226-0287
August 26, Sat.	Dillingham Clinic	Horse Park	Rich Vigue 770-289-7272
August 30, Wed.	Workday	Horse Park	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 14, Sat.	Open House	Horse Park	Judie Uchitel 404-226-0287
October 28, Sat.	Omoksee	Horse Park	Claire Eubanks 770-265-9425
November 5, Sun.	Stara Memorial Ride	Garland Mountain	Rich Vigue 770-289-7272
November 18, Sat.	Obstacle Competition	Horse Park	Judie Uchitel 404-226-0287
December 2, Sat.	BTSC Christmas Party	Pendley Creek	Judy Uchitel 404-226-0287

Lisa Sylvia

Agent

PalmerHouse Properties

5755 North Point Pkwy #16

Alpharetta, GA 30022

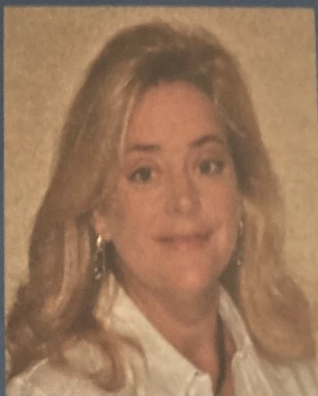
Office: 404-876-4901

Mobile: 770-401-8333

LisaSylvia3@Gmail.com

WWW.SylviaTeam.Com

fb: Sylvia Team Real Estate



PALMERHOUSE
 PROPERTIES

HARMONY
MOUNTAIN
EQUINE

Bringing you and your horse together

Natural Horsemanship Training:
 Lessons, Spring & Fall Clinics.

Onsite Services:
 3 Bedroom Apt w/Horse Lodging

Pete & Bambi Dillingham
 (678)313-5611

Follow us on Facebook

**Mountain View Pet Lodge**

Caring for pets since 1988
 Pet Boarding and Grooming
 Suites Available

Owned by **Joyce Delay**
 706-692-6604

www.facebook/
 MountainViewPetLodge
 MVPLodge@gmail.com



Photography by Jena Finley

JRV Realty of North Georgia
 Specializing in Horse Farms and Land

Rich Vigue, Broker
 770-289-7272
 www.RichVigue.com
 Rich@RichVigue.com

**PLACE
 YOUR
 FREE
 AD
 HERE**



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.