

Upcoming Events

On **Sunday, March 12th** we are jointly sponsoring with CTHA the **Ellen Stara Memorial Ride**. Details below. As with last year we are making arrangements for those that want to drive to Staraland. Just let me know when you reserve your spot. On **Saturday, March 18th** we have an **Obstacle Competition** which Judie reviews in her President's Column on page 2. *Rich*

Chattahoochee Trail Horse Assn & Bent Tree Saddle Club
are proud to sponsor the

Ellen Stara Memorial Ride 2023

Sunday, November 12th at 10:30am
Registration begins at 10am



The Southeastern Trust for Parks & Land and Bill Stara have once again granted us permission to host this collaborative ride in memory of horse trails advocate, Ellen Stara. We will ride from the Garland Mountain Trailhead to Staraland Nature Preserve. Maps to Staraland will be provided at registration and riders will travel at their own pace in groups of their choosing. Non riders will be provided with directions to Staraland parking. A short hike is required to reach Staraland.

Join us to remember this amazing woman, volunteer and friend!

Boxed lunches and bottled water will be provided at Staraland. The cost for the event is \$10 per person. Payment accepted by cash or check at the event or via PayPal at www.Ride-CTHA.org donation link.

RSVP by Monday, November 6th text Rich Vigue at 770-289-7272 or email richvigue@ellijay.com

President's Column

Fall has finally found Bent Tree, and with the cooler weather the BTSC has been able to sponsor more events at the horse park. Also, the cooler weather is more appropriate for trail rides.

An obstacle course will be set up by the week of November 6th and will remain in place until the end of November. We are planning on an Obstacle Course Challenge on November 18. Come out and practice for the event or to have fun with your horse. I love these courses because it gives your horse the opportunity to experience different situations, and in many instances to grow more bomb proof.

My time as president ends at the end of December. We desperately need for members to step forward and volunteer to take over as officers for the BTSC. We need volunteers so the club can continue on to its 32nd year. Please contact me if you are interested in one of the positions at 404 226-0287 or wolferjudie@gmail.com.

Be sure to mark your calendar for December 2, for our annual Holiday Party.
Judie



Downed Tree

Keeve Krasner called me on September 27th and informed me we had a tree down in the horse park. Not only was the tree down, but it was laying on the fence and on into the arena. Upon arriving at the horse park, I discovered it was the large tree that was closest to the hay barn and only one large section had fallen. Bent Tree was contacted to remove the tree and informed we had an event of September 30th. By the afternoon of September 27, the tree was gone. Thank you Bent Tree.

Judie

**Open House and Horse Show Recap
Saturday, October 14th**

October 14, 2023 found us at the horse park for an Open House and Horse Show. Mary Elbaz donated her time to judge our horse show event. And she did a terrific job. The events were Halter, Western Pleasure-non-gated, Western Pleasurer-gated and a timed event. I was happy with my 3rd place in Wester Pleasure-gated even though there were only 2 other horses. This probably will be the only ribbon I ever earn but this was all in fun and I believe everyone enjoyed the afternoon

We only had 4 people show up for the open house and one of them was on the Bent Tree Board. I enjoyed talking with him and believe he learned a lot about the club.

Judie



Except when designated "wild" deuces rarely win anything. Not so at the Horse Show when Julie's Deuce took the blue ribbon in Halter. Ronda's Kopper came in second. Congratulations to both.



Claire took home the Grand Champion and Lisa raked in Reserve Champion.

Bent Tree Saddle Club - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Present: **Judie Uchitel, Bob Crowl, Ronda Erway, Beyonca Padgett, Joyce DeLay, Bobby DeLay, Rich Vigue, Sandy Stephenson**

[October 4, 2023 Meeting called to order by Judie Uchitel at 6:35 p.m.](#)

Treasurer's Report

Joyce DeLay reported that the current balance is \$1,250.92, plus a \$60 check to deposit.

Membership Report

Bob Crowl reported that membership is at 80 for 2023.

Agenda Items

Brief meeting to finalize details for the Open House / Horse Show on 10/14/23. We found a judge out of Tennessee that has excellent qualifications and is willing to be a judge at no charge. Her name is Mary Elbaz. All other details discussed and finalized.

Meeting Adjourned - 7:17pm Respectfully Submitted by Beyonca Padgett, BTSC Secretary

Chickamauga Battlefield Ride Recap Saturday, October 21st

On Saturday, October 21st, Rich Vigue, Randy Erway and I traveled to Chickamauga Battlefield National Military Park. Our friend, Georgiana Hunter, met us there. It was a great way to enjoy a beautiful weekend and reflect on the service of others in the name of freedom.

It was a gorgeous day to ride the 9-mile outer loop. Randy Erway, who is usually a non-rider, was a trooper and completed the whole ride riding on and/or walking with the reliable - Socks. Lunch at one of the many park monuments gave us time to catch up and appreciate the scenery.

Ronda Erway



Pictured: Rich Vigue & Jazz, Randy Erway & Socks

**Omoksee Recap
Sunday, October 29th**

It was a great day at the Omoksee event. A big THANKS to Rich who set up the sound equipment and electronic eyes before I even arrived and to Bob for dragging the arena. I appreciate the help more than you know.

We kicked off the event at 11 am with 10 riders. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Elise had a big day. She got four 1st place ribbons and one 2nd place ribbon making her the Grand Champion for the day. She was excited about beating Lisa (Reserve Champion). I might have had a tear watching her compete in the Baton Race. They were flying and Elise was trusting her horse. So fun!

Thanks to Sandy Stephenson and Kathy Hardin for running the timer booth, keeping the order of go going all day, and keeping track of the winners. They were a good team for sure!

So much help was given on the take down and a special thanks to Bob for making sure everything was stored properly for the next event. Thanks to Lisa for the pictures and video. You got some great ones for sure!

It was mentioned we should have a practice session Omoksee soon. I would love to host such an event. Let me know if you would be interested in a play date.

Riders for the day included: Rich, Julie, Rose, Joyce, Rhonda, Megan, Elise, Judie, Lisa, and me to demonstrate the events. A special note to Beyonca who rode Rich's horse, Jazz, in the Baton Race. Rich wants to know how you got that horse to Canter!

Claire

Editor's Note: Lisa has posted some excellent photos from this event on our Group Facebook page.



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>
November 12, 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

Membership Report

The Saddle Club now has 82 members. We welcome new member Michele Murray to the Club. Michele lives in Bent Tree. Michele attended the recent Pete Dillingham horse clinic where some of you might have met her. We look forward to seeing her at future Saddle Club events. A 2024 membership application is attached to this newsletter. 2024 dues are effective October 2023 through December 2024. If you know of someone interested in joining our Club, please have them complete an application and provide it to me for processing. Or have them contact me on 770-757-8596 if they have any questions. I am looking forward to seeing you at upcoming events.

Bob

Bent Tree Saddle Club Treasurer's Report

October 29, 2023
Prepared by Joyce Delay, Treasurer

Beginning Balance		\$1,250.92
Debits		
Date	Description	Amount
10/10/23	#1187 Horse Ribbons	(\$ 77.40)
10/28/23	RichVigue Ice Pete's Clinic	(\$ 14.12)
10/28/23	Judie U. Open House Tarp	(\$ 31.48)
TOTAL Debits		(\$123.00)
Deposits		
10/10/23	Membership Dues	\$ 60.00
10/30/23	Omoksee 90; Membership Dues 40; Horse Show/Open House 50.	\$180.00
TOTAL Deposits		\$240.00
Ending Balance (as of October 29, 2023)		\$1,367.92

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

November 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1	2	3	4
5	6 RSVP Ellen Stara Ride	7	8	9	10	11
12 Ellen Stara Ride	13	14	15	16	17	18 Obstacle Com- petition
19	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		2 Christmas Party

Lisa Sylvia

Agent

PalmerHouse Properties

5755 North Point Pkwy #16

Alpharetta, GA 30022

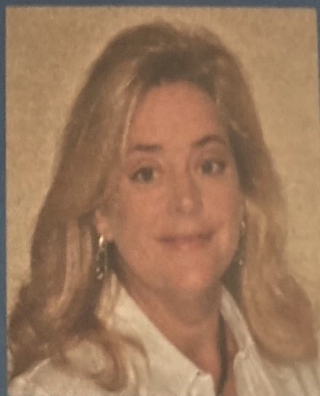
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Mobile: 770-401-8333

LisaSylvia3@Gmail.com

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Photography by Jena Finley

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Bent Tree Saddle Club – 2024 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 2024 dues are effective October 2023 through December 2024. 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.