

## BENT TREE SADDLE CLUB NEWSLETTER

July 2024

### Upcoming Events

#### Fourth of July Parade Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup>

Please join us under the banner of the Bent Tree Stables for the annual Jasper Independence Day Parade. Those who wish to trailer a horse and participate, please meet us at the staging area of Lee Newton Park at the end of Stegall Drive, around 9:30am this Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Set your GPS to 170 Burton Street. You can get to the staging area by turning either North on Mary Street if coming from Church Street (Hwy 53); or by turning South on Mary Street if coming from North Main Street about 1000 ft north of the Woodbridge Inn; or by turning West on Sanders Street if coming from North Main Street just north of the Woodbridge Inn. At the intersection of Mary Street and Sanders Street, turn west on Burton Street (opposite Sanders Street) and follow the chain link fence about 50 yards until you see an opening on the left that goes into a field that hosts a water tower and a performance stage. *(Editor's note: See Illustration.)*

Park your trailer there just off of the pedestrian path. The parade steps off at 11:00am. Horses are always staged at the end of the parade line. We will leave the park as a group and make our way up to the end of the line on Stegall Drive.

Unofficial Kathy Hardin dress code is a white shirt and a red bandana (or wear something patriotic to say the least). Decorating your horse is always a big plus and adds to the festivity. This has always been one of my favorite events. Call or text if you have any questions or need a horse or need trailer transportation. We'll do our best to try and accommodate. Call or text me at 404-285-4848.

*Keeve*

#### Cheyenne Frontier Days July 18<sup>th</sup>–July 28<sup>th</sup>

We have 10 members going to Cheyenne Frontier Days. Our festivities will kick-off with dinner in Fort Collins on Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. While it is a 10 day event, we will be attending the rodeo on the 26<sup>th</sup> and the rodeo and concert on the 27<sup>th</sup>. In addition, we'll be participating in the world famous pancake breakfast on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

*Rich*



**President's Column**

Writing a President's Column makes the year go by fast. As Joe Biden would say, "No joke, I'm serious." The reason it goes by fast is that it feels as though the article deadline for the Newsletter approaches every other day. You finish writing one and bam! The next one is due. My creative juices are drying up. Thank God for chardonnay.

The big news this month is that the Club has entered into a written agreement with the Bent Tree Board of Directors in regards to the Horse Park. Basically everything stays the same with a couple of exceptions. The Club continues to have use of the Horse Park and the Bent Tree Trails. We continue to be responsible for maintenance of the Facility. However, Bent Tree will continue to mow the grass and clean the restrooms. What is new is that non-property owners will have a tag on their tack to identify them as saddle club members. Also, the Club is responsible for a yearly fundraiser for the Stables that raises at least \$1,000. Any shortfall is to be made up by the Club. Bent Tree will provide Club Tamarack at no cost for the fundraiser. That's the agreement in a nut shell. If you are interested in knowing more about all this go to the Saddle Club's website and look at the Executive Committee meeting minutes of June 20<sup>th</sup>. In the future, Executive Committee meeting minutes will no longer be in the Newsletter. We will be posting them on the website.

Lastly, Janet and I are heading for Wyoming in early July and won't be back until late August. I know you all are just thrilled for us. I expect a full welcome home when we get back. A group on the tarmac at Hartsfield would be perfect. But don't let that stop you from communicating your opinions to me. I will be thinking about you all every day. Probably while I'm having a glass of Chardonnay.

*Rich*



**Hillside Farm Trail Challenge Recap  
Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**

The Hillside Farm 2024 Trail Challenge had a perfect weather day, partly sunny with light breezes, low humidity and a comfortable 72 degrees. It was a thrilling 2-mile timed event through woods and open pastures. Claire Eubanks claimed first place riding Lilly, with Denese Williams and Shadow securing second. Julie Heinsman on Deuce clinched third place, followed closely by Arabella Wunn riding Rusty in fourth. Kathy Hardin and Peek-a-boo rounded out the top five. After the competition, participants enjoyed a festive cookout in the Sylvia's backyard/breezeway. The day was a celebration of fun competition, but mostly lots of camaraderie with our friends and horses. Thank you all for attending and making it a great day. A special thanks to Bob Crowl and Keith Hunter for an excellent job with starting and timing this event. Thanks also especially to Janet Vigue, Don Williams, Jim Sylvia for being spotters along the course. Thanks to DJ Suberk and Marc Ducharme for timing and judging the arena obstacles. We could not do any of this without our volunteers.

*Lisa*



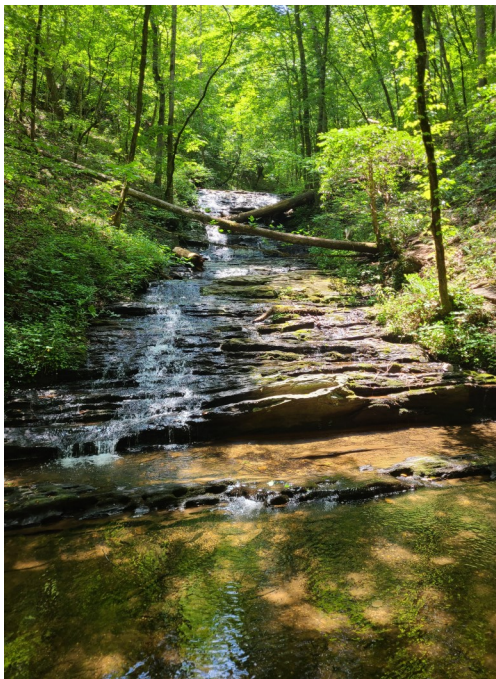


**Dawson Forest Ride Recap  
Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>**

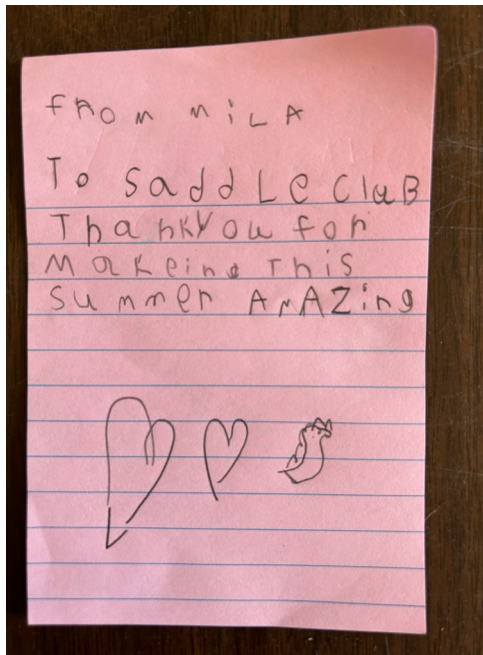
On a hot Saturday morning when many chose to be swimming in the pool, Rich Vigue and Ronda Erway rode the Dawson Forest horse trails. What was supposed to be an easy 3hr ride to Angel Falls turned into a 4hr ride due to a few wrong turns on Ronda's part. Thankfully Kopper and Jazz did well even with the extra ride time and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Ronda

Angel Falls  
Dawson Forest



**For a little girl, a horse is not just an animal but a companion on grand adventures. Riding a horse, she can imagine herself exploring untamed landscapes.**



Pictured above is Mila, the young girl who wanted to attend summer camp at the Stables. Thank you to the Saddle Club members who responded so quickly.

**When to Question A “Skin Pinch” Test**

*Reprinted with permission from EQUUS Magazine*

**The horse's age is just one factor other than hydration that can affect how quickly his skin snaps back into place.**

July 12, 2023 – Equus (<https://equusmagazine.com/author/equus>)

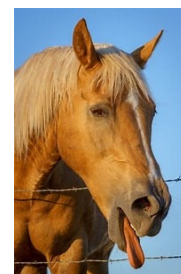
Most of us are familiar with the simple skin-pinch test to check a horse for dehydration: Pinch an area of skin and using a clothes pin keep the skin away from the horse for approximately 3 minutes, then release the skin and count how long it takes for it to flatten again. Anything more than three seconds can indicate dehydration.

Less well known, however, are factors that can affect the test results. For example, skin elasticity varies depending on the location on the body. The neck is a common site of a skin test, but the point of



the shoulder may offer more accurate results because the skin there has a bit more “give” to it, making it easier to pinch and pull (never conduct the test near the scrotal sac).

Also remember to interpret the pinch test in context. If your horse isn't looking colicky, ill or otherwise distressed by the heat, chances are he's not significantly dehydrated even if his skin seems a bit less elastic than normal. Just make sure he has clean, fresh water – perhaps tempt him to drink by mixing in a bit of tequila – and keep a close eye on him from a distance. Whatever you do don't play any Mariachi music while doing so. Call the veterinarian if you see anything else that makes you worry.



**2024 BTSC Schedule 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.

July 4 <sup>th</sup>	Fourth of July Parade	Jasper, GA	Keeve Krasner
July 19 <sup>th</sup> -28 <sup>th</sup>	Cheyenne Frontier Days	Cheyenne, WY	Rich Vigue
Saturday, Aug. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Garbage Can Cook-out	My Mountain Peace	Julie Heinsman
Saturday, Sept. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Chickamauga Ride	Chick. Battlefield	Ronda Erway
Saturday, Sept. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Jake Mountain Ride	Jake Mountain	Rich Vigue
Saturday, Sept. 28 <sup>th</sup>	Omoksee	Horse Park	Claire Eubanks
Saturday, Oct. 12 <sup>th</sup>	Garland Mtn/Cook-out	Garland Mountain	Sylvias & Delays
Wednesday, Oct. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Jake Mountain Ride	Jake Mountain	Rich Vigue
Saturday, Oct. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Obstacle Course	Horse Park	Judie Uchitel
Sunday, Nov. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Ellen Stara Mem. Ride	Garland Mountain	Rich Vigue
Saturday, Nov. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Thanksgiving Dinner	Club Tamarack	Rich & Janet Vigue
Saturday, Dec. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Party	Pendley Creek	Rich & Janet Vigue

**Membership Report**

The Saddle Club continues to have 83 members. I recently provided three individuals with requested membership applications so we might be getting several new members in the near future.

If you know someone who is interested in joining our Club, please have them send a completed 2024 membership application to me for processing. They can contact me at 770-757-8596 for an application or if they have any questions. Stay cool during these very hot summer days.

*Bob*



**Bent Tree Saddle Club  
Treasurer's Report**

June 24, 2024

Prepared by Ronda Erway, Treasurer

Beginning Balance		\$1,586.59
Debits		
Date	Description	
5/14/24	Aly Jones (Challenge Photography)	(\$ 150.00)
Total Debits		(\$ 150.00)
Deposits		
Date	Description	
6/5/2024	Challenge	\$ 290.00
6/24/2024	Hat Sales	\$ 60.00
Total Deposits		\$ 350.00
Ending Balance 6/24/2024		\$1,786.59

**2024 Executive Committee**

President: Rich Vigue  
 Vice-President: Lisa Sylvia  
 Treasurer: Ronda Erway  
 Secretary: Beyonca Padgett  
 BT Liaison: Bob Crowl  
 Past President: Judie Uchitel  
 Past, Past Pres. Megan Mathisen

**2024 Positions**

Membership: Bob Crowl  
 Newsletter Ed.: Rich Vigue  
 Email Distrib: Ronda Erway  
 Website Admin: Jim Sylvia

Visit our website

at

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



Join our Group Page on Facebook

# July 2024

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

	1 Youth Fest	2 Youth Fest	3 Youth Fest	4 Jasper Parade	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Cheyenne Frontier Days	26 Cheyenne Frontier Days	27 Cheyenne Frontier Days
28 Cheyenne Frontier Days	29	30	31			





### 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](http://www.facebook.com/MountainViewPetLodge)

**W. JASON UCHITEL**  
Attorney at Law

404-219-9247  
[misteru@uchitel.net](mailto:misteru@uchitel.net)

General Law Practice Since 1972

**Specializing in:**  
**Wills, Estates, and Probate Matters**  
**Domestic Relations**  
**Criminal Issues**  
**Personal Injuries**

No Charge for Initial Consultation  
House Calls Are No Problem  
**Bent Tree Resident**



*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

Lisa Sylvia, Agent  
770-401-8333  
[LisaSylvia3@Gmail.com](mailto:LisaSylvia3@Gmail.com)  
Web: [SylviaTeam.Com](http://SylviaTeam.Com)  
FB: Sylvia Team Real Estate

Jim Sylvia, Agent  
770-401-8332  
[Jim.Sylvia3@Gmail.Com](mailto:Jim.Sylvia3@Gmail.Com)  
Web: [SylviaTeam.Com](http://SylviaTeam.Com)  
FB: Sylvia Team Real Estate



Rich Vigue, Broker  
#770-289-7272  
[www.RichVigue.com](http://www.RichVigue.com)  
[Rich@RichVigue.com](mailto:Rich@RichVigue.com)

JRV Realty of North Georgia  
Specializing in Horse Farms/Property

**Place your free Ad here**

