

# NEWSLETTER

## BENT TREE SADDLE CLUB



September 2025

### Garbage Can Cookout At My Mountain Peace Ranch



WooHoo.....what a ride!! Well, it wasn't a ride, but it was a great Club event. It was so much fun to visit with friends that I haven't seen all summer. The weather did look a bit ominous that morning. Being the little pyromaniac that I am, the fire was started by 11:00 in drizzly weather. The garbage can was boiled clean and loaded with corn, sausage and potatoes and then set on the fire at about 5:30. By this time the drizzle was gone, skies were partly cloudy, there was a pleasant

breeze and the temperature was perfect to be outside. Who would have expected that in the middle of August?? We sure got lucky! By 7:00 the can was fully cooked and emptied into trays by some very hardy volunteers. It is hot, sweaty work. Dinner was served!

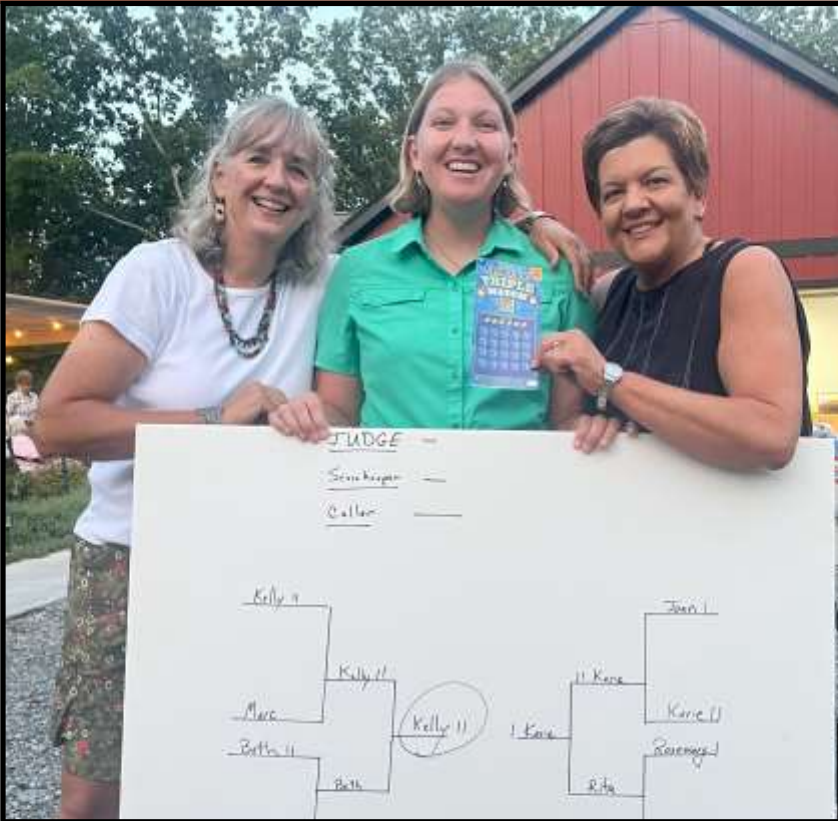
Shortly after dinner and desserts, a rowdy Rock-Paper-Scissors Tournament began. Claire Eubanks was our judge and kept all the players in line and honest. Our first of eight contestants was a brother vs. sis-

ter battle with Marc Lohman and Kelly Byers. Not only did Kelly beat Marc, she went on to win the tournament and take home the grand prize of a \$10 scratch ticket. Knowing Kelly she probably won on that ticket, too!

There was an army of people to clean up in the kitchen and outside, and I can't thank them enough. It's a big event to organize, and I want to express my appreciation for all those that helped. And now..... the can is closed until next year!

*Julie*







# Garbage Can Cookout





## Bring on Fall!!!

Yippie!!!! Fall is on the way and bringing much better riding weather. It also brings those Joro spiders. YIKES! While I know they are harmless, my irrational fear overrides that every time there might be one on me. My antics are probably good entertainment. Garland gets lots of riders and hikers which means the trails are not as Joro infested. Let's get a ride going there for Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>. See the write up for it.

Check out the article on our educational event in Hinton this month on the evening of Sept 17<sup>th</sup>. We have two well-educated speakers sharing their knowledge with us. We are inviting all the local equestrians to this event and may be able to recruit a few members for our Club.

The end of month has an

O-Mok-See on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Get your ponies ready for some competition.

Can I get any volunteers to help me organize a fun show on Oct. 25? I plan to also include a horse/rider costume contest and a "bring your own picnic" afterwards. We can put the grill to some use and cook up some goodies.

The Club needs a slate of officers for next year. Are you interested in investing some time in the future of

our Club? If so, contact one of this year's officers and let us know your interest.

Be sure to check out the calendar for the rest of the year. We've added a few events.

Until next month – saddle up, mount up, shut up, and hang on!

*Julie*



# Garland Mountain Ride



Saturday, Sept. 13th

Meet at 10:00 AM

Ride Out at 10:30 AM

Garland Mountain Horse Trails

Please join me for some Fall riding at Garland Mountain on Saturday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>. We'll meet in the parking lot around 10:00 AM with a ride out time of 10:30 AM.

Pack a lunch.

Depending on the number of riders, we will probably break into smaller groups of horses since yellow jackets, Joro spiders, and snakes will still be on the trails.

Mostly concerned about yellow jackets!!

Please let me know if you plan to attend by:

Thursday, Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>.

*Julie*

**RSVP by Thursday, Sept. 11th to Julie Heinsman at:  
mymtnpeace@gmail.com or 404-550-0270**

# Equine Education Event

In Partnership With

*Hinton Milling Company*  
*Feed, Seed & Farm Supply*

Wednesday, September 17th, 7:00 PM  
Hinton Community House  
9261 Hwy 53, Jasper, GA 30143

## Learn About Equine First Aid and Nutrition

We are partnering with Hinton Milling Company for an evening about first aid and equine nutrition to the horse community in Pickens County.

Our two guest speakers will be:

- **Dr. Amanda Tlacil, DVM.** Amanda is a licensed veterinarian. She will talk to us about first aid for our horses whether at home, on the road, or on the trail. As horse owners, we are the first line of care for our horses. It's important that we know what things to have on hand and the how's and when's to use them.
- **Leigha Woitkowski, ENA.** Leigha is a certified Equine Nutrition Advisor. She will teach us about scoring horse body condition and all the facets of proper nutrition for our favorite equines.

**See following pages for more information.**

**Pizza and drinks will be provided to attendees.**

**Join us for an interesting and informative evening!**

*Julie*

**RSVP Required By Monday, Sept., 14th**

**Contact: Julie Heinsman at  
mymtnpeace@gmail.com or 404-550-0270**

# Equine Education Event (cont.)

## Guest Speakers



**Dr. Amanda Tlail, DVM**, is a veterinarian and a graduate of Kansas State University's College of Veterinary Medicine. Originally from Canton, she has just relocated from Ocala, Florida back to the area and is in the process of opening her own private practice.

Since veterinarians are in short supply, we welcome her to the North Georgia Mountains and are happy to have her back home!

**Leigha Woitkowski, ENA**, is a certified Equine Nutrition Advisor and graduate of Legacy Equine Nutrition which is a company founded by Dr. Rachel Mottet who has a PhD in Animal Science and Equine Nutrition.

Leigha is available for consultation and can work with you and your horse to develop a feed, supplement and nutrient program to meet your horse's needs. You'll see she's a bit passionate about this work! This is truly about the animal and not about selling any particular brand of feed.





# Equine Education Event (cont.)

## Additional Information About Leigha Woitkowski

Explore the Equine Nutrition Advisor service tailored to enhance your horse's diet for optimal health and performance. Expert Leigha Woitkowski, a graduate of Legacy Equine Nutrition, develops customized meal plans to suit your horse's unique needs. She provides support for all types of horses—whether competitive, leisure, or in recovery—emphasizing nutrient balance and specific dietary requirements. Improve your horse's well-being with professional nutrition strategies that promote vibrant health and peak performance. Opt for this service to make a meaningful difference in your horse's life.

### What to Expect

- **Discovery Call:** We will discuss basic horse information and pricing. You will also receive a nutrition intake form.
- **On-Farm or Virtual Consultation:** We'll talk about Body Condition Score (BCS), set goals, and determine a program that fits your needs.
- **30-Day Check-In:** progress pictures, and program tweaking, if needed.
- **60-Day Check-In:** progress pictures, and program tweaking, if needed.
- **90-Day Check-In:** progress pictures, and program tweaking, if needed. Evaluate program and complete services, or continue as needed



### Services

- Virtual Consultations
- On Farm Consultations
- Program Evaluations
- 12-week Guided Program
- Post Service Continued Program

Leigha Woitkowski, ENA | leighacharpentier@gmail.com | (603) 370-7193



**LEGACY EQUINE**  
CERTIFIED NUTRITION ADVISOR

**RSVP Required By Monday, Sept., 14th**  
**Contact: Julie Heinsman at**  
**mymtnpeace@gmail.com or 404-550-0270**



# O-Mok-See



Sunday, Sept. 27th at 11:00 AM  
Bent Tree Saddle Club Arena

Mark your calendars, don't delay,  
Another O-Mok-See's on September 27th day!  
Bring your game face, and don't be shy,  
We'll laugh, we'll play, our horses will fly!  
So get ready, it's almost here!  
Feel the rhythm, hear the tribes,  
Creating music, catching the vibes,  
Can't ride, come and bring some Cheer!

*Lisa*

**RSVP by Sept. 20 to Lisa Sylvia at:**  
**LisaSylvia3@gmail.com or 770-401-8333**

## CLUB TRAVEL TRIP



Phone: 931-879-1176  
www.eastforkstables.com  
contact@eastforkstables.com

Thurs., Oct. 2nd—Mon., Oct. 6th  
3598 S. York Hwy., Jamestown, TN 38556

### It's an easy drive to a fantastic location in Jamestown, TN!

This weekend is the **Mountain Trail Challenge** which uses the obstacle park that has recently been completed.

The trail challenge is put on by **CHAPS – Competitive Horse and Partnership**. They will have in-hand classes and riding classes for youth, novice, adult and masters. The competition classes start at 1:00 PM on Friday and are over by 6:00 PM on Sunday. You can come for the trail riding and/or the competition.

Members can sign up for any of the classes or come for the trails and fun. We can plan a night at the nearby winery and brewery that now has a full bar and pizza. Please let me know if you plan to attend. You can come for all or part of it.

#### East Fork Has It All!

- Over 100 Miles of Trails
  - Campsites
- Bunk Houses & Cabins
  - Stalls & Paddocks

*Julie*

For more information, contact: Julie Heinsman at  
mymtnpeace@gmail.com or 404-550-0270





# CHICKAMAUGA BATTLEFIELD RIDE

**Saturday, October 11th**

**Meet at 10:30AM—Ride out at 11AM**

**Chickamauga National Military Park  
3370 Lafayette Rd., Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742  
[www.nps.gov/chch](http://www.nps.gov/chch)**

**Join us for a Trailing Event on Saturday, October 11th at the  
Chickamauga Battlefield in Fort Oglethorpe, GA!**

We will meet in the horse parking area at 10:30 AM and ride out at 11 AM.

The nicely groomed 9-mile red trail around the park takes about 3 hours to ride. We'll stop for lunch at one of the monuments, so don't forget food and a beverage.

The park address is 3370 Lafayette Rd, Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742. There's a parking lot for parking and unloading horses located at the west-central section of the park on Lytle Road. Click [HERE](#) for a detailed map of the park, directions and more information ([www.npplan.com](http://www.npplan.com)).

Hope you can join us! See you there!

*Ronda*



If you wish to attend, please contact Ronda Erway at:  
[rrerway@gmail.com](mailto:rrerway@gmail.com) or 402-540-3338  
RSVP by Wednesday, October 8th



# Bent Tree Fun Show— Costume Contest & Cookout



Saturday, October 25th at  
1:00 PM *Sharp!*  
Bent Tree Saddle Club Arena

Plan on 4 or 5 fun, goofy classes for our entertainment. And start working on your horse and rider costume for the contest. No theme... just bring your creativity to life with you and your horse!

Immediately following the show will be a BYOE (bring your own everything) except charcoal cookout. It's about time we fired up that grill and enjoyed some fellowship after the event!

Please invite your family or friends to join us.

*Julie and Megan*



## SAVE THE DATE!



# Treasurer's Report

*Prepared by Ronda Erway, Treasurer, August 8, 2025*

<b>Beginning Balance</b>		<b>\$2,194.01</b>
<b>Debits</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	
	No Entries This Month	
<b>Total Debits</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Deposits</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	
	No Entries This Month	
<b>Total Deposits</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Ending Balance Date</b>		
7/28/25		<b>\$2,194.01</b>

\*Pending approved expenditures - Randy Taylor: Judge's stand repair for \$500.-

# Bent Tree Liaison's Report

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## **BENT TREE STABLES STATUS UPDATE**

Little has happened regarding the Stables since my update in the August newsletter. I learned at the August 26th Bent Tree board meeting that the Bent Tree General Manager, working with Ralph Morse, Bent Tree Treasurer, and the Stables Oversight Committee drafted a Request for Interest (RFI) that will be used to solicit parties interested in leasing the Stables. Also, volunteer work to improve the physical facilities paused.

The volunteer work leader advised me that he wants to get started on improving the barn horse stalls and repairing fencing recently damaged by a fallen tree. The General Manager confirmed this at the aforementioned board meeting and again stated that Bent Tree's goal is to reopen the Stables in early 2026. You will be notified as soon as the work leader provides work times and dates. If you are available, please volunteer.

*Bob Crowl*



## Now Recruiting For The Executive Committee



We're looking for members to join the Executive Board next year. There will be open positions to fill, so if you're interested, please let us know.

Thanks to volunteers, we are able to offer you a wide variety of events and activities. You'll be part of a dynamic, creative, and supportive team that's passionate about horses and friendship.

Please contact any of the Executive Committee members [HERE](#) or e-mail: [infoBTSaddleClub@gmail.com](mailto:infoBTSaddleClub@gmail.com).

**Thank You!**

## Know Anyone Interested In Joining The Club?

Joining the Bent Tree Saddle Club is a great way for you to meet new people, learn new equestrian skills, go on group rides and trips, and get involved in the local horse community. You don't need to reside in the Bent Tree Community to become a member of the Saddle Club, and you don't have to own a horse.

You just have to be a horse lover!

It's easy and affordable. All you need to do is complete an application and submit your payment of \$40 for the year.

Click [HERE](#) For A Membership Application Form!

For more information, contact:  
Bob Crowl at 770-757-8596 or  
[bobcrowl@etcm.com](mailto:bobcrowl@etcm.com)

- Or -

Visit Our Website:  
[www.BentTreeSaddleClub.com](http://www.BentTreeSaddleClub.com)



## Foal Follies



Welcome Autumn! It seems to have arrived. What a hot summer we had, and it was very tough on the animals, especially the older ones. My 13-year-old yellow Lab, Ziggy, is especially affected by the heat, and I feel for him because he can't take off his fur coat. He's a water lover though and cools off in creeks and at Carters Lake.

Last week, the temperatures and humidity really dropped, and it was fabulous to be outside again. Ziggy and I went for a nice walk at Roper Park. Beside the park, there's a small farm across the street from Pickens Junior High School. There lives a grand cremello stallion and his harem of lovely broodmares. If you've ever driven down Refuge Road, no doubt you've seen this gorgeous creature when he's been outside. His name is Ko Kid, and he's an American Quarter Horse born in 2008.

## From the Editor

Last spring, each mare had a foal, all born within days of each other. I snapped a few pics of them (below) last April. They were as cute as buttons, and it was fun watching them discover their new world on wobbly legs, while never straying very far from their mamas.

They're about four months old now and being weaned, so they graze altogether without their mothers. During my walk, I





## Foal Follies (cont.)



saw the sire, all alone in the adjacent paddock, looking a bit agitated (per usual) and pacing back and forth restlessly. The oblivious foals drifted ever closer and closer towards him. When suddenly, they got too close, and Big Daddy tossed his head and stomped. The three foals bolted away at a flat gallop down the length of the field and back again. They were flying on delicate legs, flinging their sassy heads and swishing wispy tails. I watched with delight as they galloped passed, rearing and bucking and feeling more rambunctious than usual

## From the Editor

in the cool, crisp air. For all horse lovers, and I'd expect everybody else, watching foals playfully kicking up their heels is one of life's simplest and greatest pleasures. The feeling it brings is mesmerizing.

I discovered that these horses have a connection to our Club. Megan Mathisen just bought a yearling colt bred by the same stallion. Now that is exciting news, and I'm pleased to announce that there is a new addition to one of our member's corrals. His name is Scoutin' For Trouble, and, no doubt, with a designation like that he will be a fun handful and Romeo's new BFF. Congratulations and good luck with your new horse, Megan. Check out the sweet pics of Scout on the following page.

Have a great Fall Y'all!

*Karie*

### Speaking of Gorgeous Blondes... Can You Name This Famous Horse?

(The answer is somewhere in the newsletter)





## Introducing Scoutin' For Trouble, aka., Scout



Submitted by Megan Mathisen



### *Recollections by Margaret Lonsdale—Part 2*

One reoccurring memory that makes me giggle every time I drive up Soquili Trail was the racing rivalry between Sandra and Leigh's horses; Sandra's horse, Smokey, a buckskin with beautiful eyes, cut late in life so he still was a stallion in his mind.



Leigh's horse, Sassy, equally beautiful, a quarter palomino mare with attitude for days. Each horse loved a race and their owners obliged them often. Back in the day, Hickory Cove subdivision was not paved. We raced around those roads like it was a private race track. If we met a car,

it was a moment of terror followed by an exclamation of "Whew, what a ride." Toward the end of the Hickory Cove circle, there was a portion of the road that had an uphill grade. At the top was the path back to the barn, now known as Soquili Trail. Needless to say, it was a primo place to "air 'em out" like that wacky stable master—post The Dillinghams—used to say. Sandra and Leigh would inevitably find their way to the front of the group in anticipation of this portion of the road. Usually Smokey would take off because Sandra is a hellion on horseback and loves not only the "Racking High" but also the "Running High." Smokey loved taking the lead. He was quite deft at cutting



the approaching horse off. Leigh would follow on Sassy at speeds unknown, yelling "Sassy, quit!"

The specific race that makes me laugh out loud is when the two horses were approaching the turn to the right up Soquili Trail. Smokey cut off Sassy near the turn in true competitive fashion and was on his way to victory. With nowhere to go, the spunky mare with her unknown passenger, went off road and cut the corner through the woods and over a fallen tree, all at a gallop, to keep abreast of Smokey as they ran up the hill. While the

### *Recollections by Margaret Lonsdale—Part 2 (cont.)*

outcome was not witnessed, we observed the beginning and then heard the tales of its ending when we got back to the barn.

After our rides, we would tuck our horses safely away and begin post-traumatic ride bonding at the barn. As the sun went down, we would move to the campfire area and start a fire. Suddenly a cooler would appear, someone would order a pizza, and a boom box or car radio would be turned on. The large flat rocks that were my napping spot



earlier that afternoon became our dance floor for our many featured dancers. Rich and Janet were the Fred and Ginger of the group. It is still a wonder that we didn't suffer cerebral injury or at least put an eye out with all the high-rise dancing in the dark. It was during these times I got to know folks, laughing and sharing stories.

So are the ramblings of a 47-year-old BTSC member. I have celebrated my birthdays, congo'ed through the millennium, and enjoyed just about everything with many of you. You were present when I paraded my new steeds in front of the group. You were there, even on a weekday, to support me as I put down my first horse, Parker. Now, even though I spend less time with the



club, I feel a sense of coming home as I drive into Jasper and turn onto Burnt Mountain Road. There's Bobby on his motorcycle. There's Kathy trailering off to a new adventure. There's Randy's red truck. There's BJ's sign that says she can hypnotize people. I have and will continue to share my life with these folks. What a welcoming bunch of people of all shapes, sizes, ages, and backgrounds who love life and their horses.

Whew, what a ride!

*Margaret Lonsdale-Circa 2010*



### FEATHER

A Tennessee Walker – black and white  
That rump and tail were quite a sight!  
Wherever I pointed him, he would go –  
Over ridges and trails, many times solo.  
For 20 years, he was my steed.  
Our memories together will never recede.

Trot on, Feather!



Submitted by Lyn Cates



# People Will Stare. Make It Worth Their While!



Enter your favorite, sweetest or funniest photo of your horse in the BTSC Photo Contest!

**Win An Amazon Gift Card Worth \$25!**

## Contest Rules

- Your entry must include your horse(s) either alone, with you, your family/friends, or with other animals.
- One photo per BTSC member in JPEG format and unedited.
- Photo must include a title, short description or backstory.
- Prize will be awarded at the Christmas Year-End Party on Dec. 13th.
- You can change and resubmit a different photo anytime prior to the cut off date of Sat., Nov. 29 2025.

**E-mail or text your entry to: [kariekruse@gmail.com](mailto:kariekruse@gmail.com) or 706-502-0212**

I've received photos from: Carol Jones, Lisa Sylvia, Kathy Hardin, Rita Boje and Hal Gurley. If you sent one in and your name's not listed, let me know.

Good Luck!

*Karie*



UNIVERSITY OF  
**GEORGIA**

## 2025 Equine Exchange— Lunch & Learn Webinar

These interactive monthly Zoom sessions are free of charge. Auditors may observe, ask questions, and further discuss specific problems online live with the presenter. This program is for all horse owners and horse lovers who want to learn more about the topic and stay informed.

This month's Equine Exchange Lunch & Learn monthly webinar will be about:

### Equine Joints and Joint Health To be held on ...

**Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 12 Noon**

To register for this free webinar session, click [HERE](#).

Last month, the discussion topic was about bridles and bit fit perceptions with PhD candidate, Kelsey Irvine. For those who couldn't join the online meeting but would like to see it, the recording is available [HERE](#).

To view numerous other past sessions, you can go to [this link](#).

Make a suggestion about future topics, by sending a message to: [rlstew2@uga.edu](mailto:rlstew2@uga.edu)

*Success doesn't come from  
what you do occasionally  
but from what you do  
consistently.*



A new resource for  
those caring for equids  
age 15 years and older.

## Mr. Ed

(Answer from page 17)



**Mr. Ed** was a talking palomino in a 1960s TV show by the same name. At a time when Westerns dominated, Mr. Ed was the anti-Western. The main human character a klutzy architect named, Wilbur, and the hero a horse that was fond of his meals and comfortable life. Allan "Rocky" Lane, who made dozens of B-Westerns, voiced him. The show was a five-year hit. Mr. Ed offered a gentle, homely wisdom that enabled him to straighten out the troubles of the humans around him. To make Mr. Ed "talk," initially, his trainer put nylon thread in his mouth. Ed actually learned to move his lips on cue when the trainer touched his hoof. In fact, he soon learned to do it when Wilbur stopped talking during a scene. Mr. Ed's real name was Bamboo Harvester. He was an American Saddlebred-Arabian and lived from 1949-1970. His horse double on the show was a second palomino named Pumpkin.

## Recipe Roundup

### Peppermint Thumbprints

**Makes 15 Horse Treats**

#### Ingredients

3 cups rolled oats (e.g., Nutrena Country Feeds Premium Horse Oats)  
3/4 cup water  
5 Tbs molasses  
15 peppermints or spearmints

#### Instructions

1. In a large bowl, mix the oats and water until the oats are damp.
2. Add molasses one tablespoon at a time, until the oats are all covered and are sticky\*.
3. Roll into balls, the size of a golf ball.
4. Take 1 peppermint and press it down into the middle of the cookie.
5. Repeat until all of the mixture has been used.
6. Refrigerate (uncovered) for 4-6 hours, or freeze for 2-3 hours to harden.

Let your four-legged friend enjoy!

\*You can add another tablespoon or two of molasses, add as much as you need.



*Recipe courtesy of aqha.com*



# Lost Skills of the Pony Express

## The Pony Express is one of the most enduring stories of the Old West

### A Brief Chapter

By the mid-1800s, the population of California had exploded. Residents were eager to correspond with connections back east, but communication required incredible patience; mail delivery took a month by boat or overland stage. By the late 1850s, a trio of enterprising freighting firm owners supported the idea of an express overland mail route delivered by horse-back relay: the Pony Express. On April 3, 1860, the first rider left St. Joseph, Missouri. Ten days and 1,900 miles later, the mail reached its final destination, San Francisco. Eventually, the Pony Express required more than 150 stations, 120 riders, and 400 horses. Despite the dangers of the trail, there are only two accounts of lost mail. Just 19 months after its start, the Pony Express discontinued after the Over-

land Telegraph Company completed its construction of the telegraph line.



### Orphans Preferred

Allegedly, the ad placed for Pony Express riders read, “Wanted: Young, Skinny, Wiry Fellows not over 18. Must be expert riders willing to risk death daily. Orphans preferred.”

### Hard-earned

Pony Express riders were hired at \$50 per month, plus room and board. Over time, this rose to \$100 to \$125. A few whose rides were particularly danger-

ous or who braved unusual dangers received \$150.

### Horse-Powered

The Pony Express was set up to provide a fresh horse every 10–15 miles. Seventy-five horses were needed to make a one-way trip. Along the eastern end of the trail, Thoroughbreds and Morgans were typical mounts; toward the western end, mustangs were the preferred choice.

### The Mochila

The rapid exchange of mail from one rider to another would not have been possible without the mochila. The mochila—simply a leather covering thrown over the saddle, with pouches for the mail—allowed mail to go from



## Lost Skills of the Pony Express (cont.)

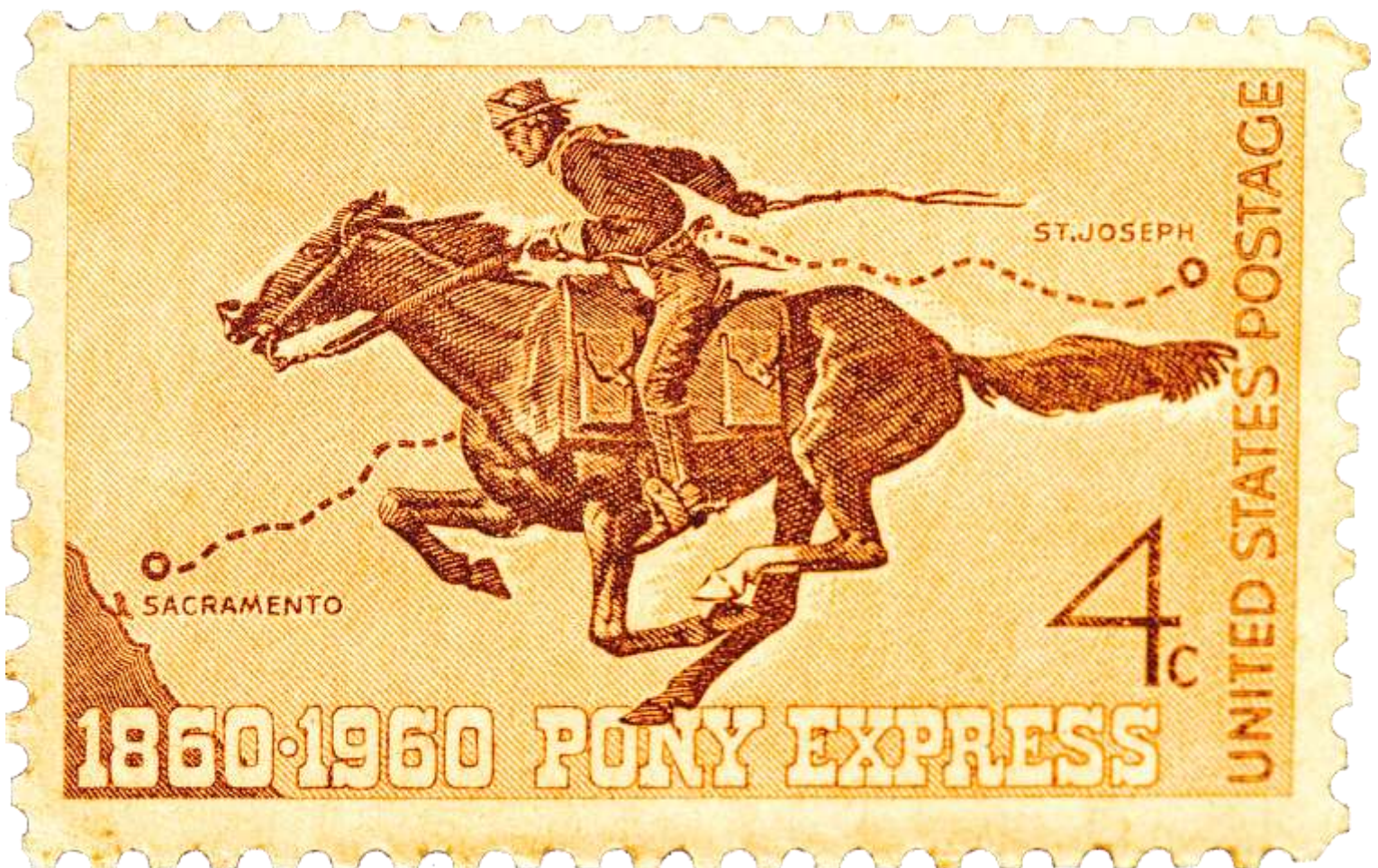
one saddle to the other without needing to change the saddle. When a rider arrived at a relay station, a fresh horse, saddled and bridled, was waiting for him. The rider changed the mochila from one saddle to another and was off.

*Article courtesy of  
AmericanCowboy.com*

### Taking the Oath

**New employees were sworn in with this oath:**

**"I, \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby swear, before the Great and Living God, that during my engagement, and while I am an employee of Russell, Majors and Waddell, I will, under no circumstances, use profane language, that I will drink no intoxicating liquors, that I will not quarrel or fight with any other employee of the firm, and that in every respect I will conduct myself honestly, be faithful to my duties, and so direct all my acts as to win the confidence of my employers, so help me God."**







# September 2025

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

	1 Labor Day 	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 RSVP Garland Mountain Ride	12	13 Garland Mountain Ride
14 RSVP Educational: Equine First Aid & Nutrition	15	16	17 Educational: Equine First Aid & Nutrition	18	19	20 RSVP O-Mok-See
21	22  Autumnal Equinox	23	24	25	26	27 O-Mok-See
28	29	30				





# Annual Schedule of Events 2025



Date	Event	Time	Place	Organizer
Sat., Feb. 1	Kick-Off Party	6:00 PM	Tavern at the 19th Hole, Bent Tree	Julie Heinsman
Sat., Feb. 22	Scavenger Hunt	10:30 AM	Bent Tree Saddle Club Horse Park	Karie Kruse
Sat., Mar. 8	Horse Park Workday	10:30 AM	Bent Tree Saddle Club Horse Park & Arena	Karie Kruse
Mon., Mar. 17	St. Patrick's Day Dinner	6:00 PM	Rocco's Pub, Jasper, GA	Karie Kruse
Sat., Mar. 22	Poker Ride	10:30 AM	Bent Tree Saddle Club Horse Park & Erway Farm	Ronda Erway
Sat., Apr. 5	O-Mok-See	11:00 AM	Bent Tree Saddle Club Arena	Lisa Sylvia
Sun., Apr. 13	Burnt Mount Preserve Ride	10:00 AM	Bent Tree Saddle Club Horse Park	Rich Vigue
Sun., Apr. 27	High Point Equine Bodywork, Masterson Method & Demo	1:00 PM	Bent Tree Saddle Club Arena	Julie Heinsman
Sat., May 3	Kentucky Derby Party	5:00 PM	Rocco's Pub, Jasper, GA	Rich Vigue
Sat., May 10	Saddle Fitting Clinic, Cookout, General Meeting	11:00 AM	Bent Tree Saddle Club Horse Park	Julie Heinsman
Sun., May 18	Western Pleasure Event	Cancelled	Bent Tree Saddle Club Arena	Megan Mathisen
Sat., May 31	Hillside Farm Trail Challenge	11:00 AM	Sylvia's Farm	Lisa & Jim Sylvia
Sat. Jun 7	Obstacle Trail Challenge	Cancelled	Eubanks' Farm	Claire Eubanks
Thur. Jun 12 - 16	Big South Fork Trip	-	Big South Fork National Pk Jamestown, TN	Julie Heinsman
Fri., July 4	Independence Day Parade	11:00 AM	Main St., Jasper, GA	Julie Heinsman
Sat., July 19	Texas Hold 'Em Tournament	Cancelled	Rocco's Pub	Julie Heinsman
Sat., Aug. 23rd	Garbage Can Cookout	6:30 PM	Julie's Mountain Peace Ranch	Julie Heinsman
Sat., Sept. 13	Garland Mountain Ride	10:30 AM	Garland Mountain Horse Trails	Julie Heinsman
Wed., Sept. 17	Equine Education Event First Aid and Nutrition	7:00 PM	Hinton Community House Jasper, GA	Julie Heinsman
Sat., Sept. 27	O-Mok-See	11:00 AM	Bent Tree Saddle Club Arena	Lisa Sylvia
Thur. Oct. 2 - 6	East Fork Stables Trip	-	East Fork Stables, Jamestown, TN	Julie Heinsman
Sat., Oct. 11	Chickamauga Battlefield Ride	11:00 AM	Chickamauga Battlefield, Fort Oglethorpe, GA	Ronda Erway
Sat., Oct. 25	Bent Tree Fun Show	1:00 PM	Bent Tree Saddle Club Arena	Julie Heinsman & Megan Mathisen
Sat., Nov. 8	Ellen Stara Ride	11:00 AM	Garland Mountain, Waleska, GA	Rich Vigue
Sat., Nov. 22	Sharptop Ride	TBD	Sharptop Mountain	Rich Vigue
Sat., Dec. 13	Christmas Year-End Party	6:00 PM	TBD	Karie Kruse

# **Bent Tree Saddle Club**

## **2025 Executive Committee**

### **President**

Julie Heinsman  
(404) 550-0270  
mymtnpeace@gmail.com

### **Past President**

Rich Vigue  
(770) 289-7272  
viguerich@gmail.com

### **Vice President**

Karie Kruse  
(706) 502-0212  
kariekruse@gmail.com

### **Past Past President**

Jim Sylvia  
(770) 401-8332  
jim.sylvia3@gmail.com

### **Treasurer**

Ronda Erway  
(402) 540-3338  
rrerway@gmail.com

### **Secretary**

Lisa Sylvia  
(770) 401-8333  
lisasyvia3@gmail.com

### **Bent Tree Liaison**

Bob Crawl  
(770) 757-8596  
bobcrawl@etcmail.com

### **Appointee**

Megan Mathisen  
(573) 528-3482  
megank143@hotmail.com

## **2025 Positions**

Membership  
Bob Crawl

E-Mail Distribution  
Lisa Sylvia

Website Support  
Jim Sylvia

Newsletter Editor  
Karie Kruse



**Visit Our Website:**  
**[www.BentTreeSaddleClub.com](http://www.BentTreeSaddleClub.com)**

