

BENT TREE SADDLE CLUB NEWSLETTER February 2010

Upcoming Events

Super Bowl Party Sunday, February 7th

The Super Bowl Party is set for 4:30 pm Sunday, February 7th at the Pendley Creek Stables. This party is BYO beverage, chair and an hors d'oeuvre. Finger sandwiches and Frog Hollow Bloody Marys will be served by the host. The host also promises a Bourbon Street ambience during the game. Whatever that means. There will also be a football pool based on a quarter by quarter score. Come watch the game on the big screen with some of your best friends and laissez les bon temps rouler! Reservations are required no later than Thursday, February 4th by calling Randy Taylor at 770-893-9381.

Randy

Garland Mountain Workday Saturday, February 13th

It's time to show the Cherokee County Saddle Club that we too care about trails. Volunteers are needed on Saturday, February 13th to help create a new trail at Garland Mountain. We need sawyers and loppers to clear an 8-foot-wide trail corridor. Plan to arrive at the Garland Mountain Trailhead no later than 9:45 am to complete the minimal paperwork. We'll set out for the trail at 10 am and return around 2 pm. It is more than a mile hike from the parking lot to the work area so we're looking for someone who might be able to bring a UTV to transport equipment and/or people. Chainsaw operators will need chaps and hard hats. Please bring plenty of drinking water, your lunch or snack, any personal medicines needed and a way to carry those items. Also, please let me know if you plan to attend no later than Thursday, February 11th. Directions will be e-mailed upon request. I can be reached at 770-289-7272 or via e-mail at richvigue@ellijay.com.

Rich

Prince Memorial Ride Sunday, February 21st

Our fifth annual Bruce Prince Memorial Ride will be on Sunday, February 21st. We will leave from the Bent Tree Saddle Club Horse Park at 10:30 am. The back gate will open at 10:00 am. We will ride to the Prince cabin and have lunch there. This is a fairly demanding ride as there are some steep climbs and rocky areas. We will stop along the way several times to give the horses a break, including a stop at the Bruce Prince Memorial sign. There will be plenty of opportunities to reminisce about Bruce and recall our fond memories. The ride should last about 3 to 3½ hours.

Please let me know by February 17th if you are coming. Martha will be serving lunch at the cabin (if the access road is passable for a vehicle to get to the cabin) so we need an accurate head count. If the access road is not passable, we will let you know so you can pack a lunch. Also, I need a head count for the back gate. Please advise me of your plans by calling 706-692-9825 or e-mailing bobpeggy@windstream.net. We will be checking for negative Coggins at the horse park. Martha and I are looking forward to seeing you.

Bob



All-Day Ride Sunday, February 28th

Get ready for our first all-day ride of 2010 on Sunday, February 28th. We will be riding the high country again with a later lunch stop at the Houses'. This year Nickie is cooking Chili for us so just pack a mid-morning snack for you and your horse. The back gate will open at 8:30 am with ride-out at 9 am. Expect to return to the horse park around 4 pm. Another option for some who do not enjoy the final leg of the ride through Bent Tree is to park your trailer up in front of the Houses' property on Monument Road. We might be able to do this as long as we don't delay the ride-out time. Please let me know by Wednesday, February 24th if you plan to ride and if you'd like to park your trailer up on Monument Road. You can reach me at 770-253-5822 or at richvigue@ellijay.com.

Rich

Spring Trip to Firefly Acres - Update April 9th - 11th

As of now, we have 25 people signed up for the April 9th - 11th trip to Firefly Acres. It is looking like we will have another great weekend of riding, eating and spending time around the stack stone fireplace at the pavilion. All five cabins are booked. However, if you haven't yet signed up and want to come, nearby motel rooms are still available and we do have space for a few more horses. We have one paddock and two box stalls remaining, so hurry and join in on all the fun! Contact Bambi at 678-313-5611 or firefly-acres@blomand.net.

Bambi

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The Bent Tree Saddle Club's 2010 got off to good start with our kickoff meeting on January 23rd. My thanks to all who participated. And a special thanks to all who purchased merchandise during our clearance sale. Apparently, we like sales. We only have a few ball caps left. The other stuff is gone.

While at the dinner meeting at Crust a relatively new member commented to Janet about how eclectic our membership is. We are very fortunate to have such a diverse group of people with accomplished and specialized skills that we can draw on. The common denominator is that we all love horses. Maybe there are a few husbands who are not in this category, but they're good sports with deep pockets when it comes to the care and feeding of our livestock. Notice I didn't say pets. I don't ride my pets. However, I know many of you do. Mark my words. PETA will be coming after you.

It's funny how the drought of the past couple of years is beginning to look better and better to me. We have a packed calendar coming up the next few months. Join in when you can. I can't do anything about the weather, but I can guarantee we'll have a good time.

Horse Park Workday Saturday, March 6th

I know it doesn't seem like it now, but spring is just around the corner. We have our first O-Mok-See at the end of March, and that means that the arena needs to be spruced up and ready to go. Our workday is scheduled for March 6th to clean up what winter has left behind. We need to have as many volunteers as possible to make the job go quicker for everybody. As the date gets closer, I will have further details, so please check your e-mails and the March newsletter. Thanks.

David

Mount Rogers Trip June 21-27

Where: Southwestern corner of Virginia. Judy's barn is located in Elk Creek, Virginia, which is about 25 miles south of Wytheville (located at the junction of I-77 and I-81).

Logistics: It is about 350 miles from Jasper to Elk Creek. From Jasper, the easiest way is to go I-75 north (I get on in Cleveland, Tennessee) to I-40 through Knoxville to I-81. Depending on where you stay, directions can be provided from there. **YOU DO NOT WANT TO TAKE HWY 58 FROM I-81** around Bristol. Roads are not suitable for horse trailers. Also, some of you may be going from the Dawsonville-Cumming area and may choose to go I-85 to I-77 to Galax (Hwy 58) and over from there.

The riding: The riding is varied (some difficult, some easy - none of it "scary") and will require a 10-minute to 1-hour pull from Elk Creek. You can check out the trails online that we will be riding. They are listed below:

- New River Trail at Fries, Virginia, and Shot Tower: flat, easy riding on old railroad bed along the New River. Requires many bridge/trestle crossings and bicycles (not too many on weekdays).
- Virginia Highlands Trail (from Hussey Mountain Campground) and at Mount Rogers, Fox Creek: this trail is over 100-miles long and runs along a ridge of mountains through the Jefferson National Forest. Trails are usually in very good condition and are moderate trails through the mountains.
- Grayson Highlands State Park: High mountain meadow with vistas, wild ponies and hikers with backpacks (so get your horses used to them!) Some rocky trails. Steep roads getting up to the park (climbing over 2000 ft).
- Iron Mountain Trail: Crosses the Virginia Highlands Trail at both Hussey Mountain and Fox Creek.

Places to stay:

- Judy has 10 acres of grass, but no fencing. You are welcome to make small electric corrals for your horses. (Note that it would not be a good idea for everyone to leave the premises with horses in electrical pens incase one gets out). There are a couple of RV hook ups (water/power) if you have a LQ horse trailer. There is a kitchen and bathroom in the barn.
- There is a large barn about 35 minutes away (by car - you can ride there from Hussey Mountain) called Iron Mountain Horse Camp. I know Sheila who runs the place, so if it is decided that this is the best place, I can call and see what kind of accommodations there are for the humans.
- I have found two farmhouses (one Judy, Ellen and Jodie stayed in) and one that has a paddock and run-in shelter. Both have multiple bedrooms and bathrooms.
- There are other cabins and a barn with eight stalls that we are working on as well.

Action required:

- E-mail Rich Vigue at richvigue@ellijay.com no later than March 1st and let him know what day and time you plan to arrive and your people/horse lodging requirements. Rich and Judy will then calculate the total requirements and get back to you with available options.

Judy Heilman

Snowstorm in Bent Tree - Recap



Continued, next page

Kickoff Meeting Recap Saturday, January 23rd

This year's kickoff meeting was held in two parts – Cartersville's Booth Museum in the afternoon and a dinner meeting at Crust in Jasper.

Approximately 36 members met at the Booth to marvel at the artwork that is on display there. As I have said many times, this place is really amazing. With the new building addition and the acquisition of some Remingtons, it has become one of the best western art museums in the country. My thanks to Lee Burger for helping to set this up.

Later that day, approximately 50 saddle club members met for dinner, a meeting and entertainment at Crust. During the meeting, I reviewed some new actions being taken by the executive committee, including changing our insurance provider and preparing a new power of attorney form to cover instances when we have a minor participating in an event but the parent is unable to attend. I also informed members of some recent vandalism at the BTSC Horse Park.

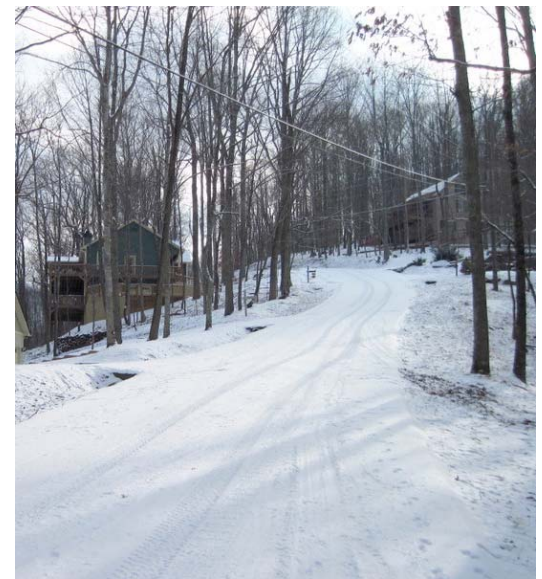
Our speaker was Jim Gibby, chairman, Georgia Agricultural Commodity Commission for Equine (ACCE), who filled us in on what the commission is doing with the monies generated from the sale of the equine license plates. Get your equine plate if you haven't done so already. Entertainment was provided by Jasper native Matt Chastain. There was a consensus that we need to have this guy back again. Pictures of the kickoff have been posted on the club's website at www.BTSC.info.

Rich

Storm Recap continued



Beaver Run



Alpine Drive



DJ and Rowdy's house

Secretary's Report

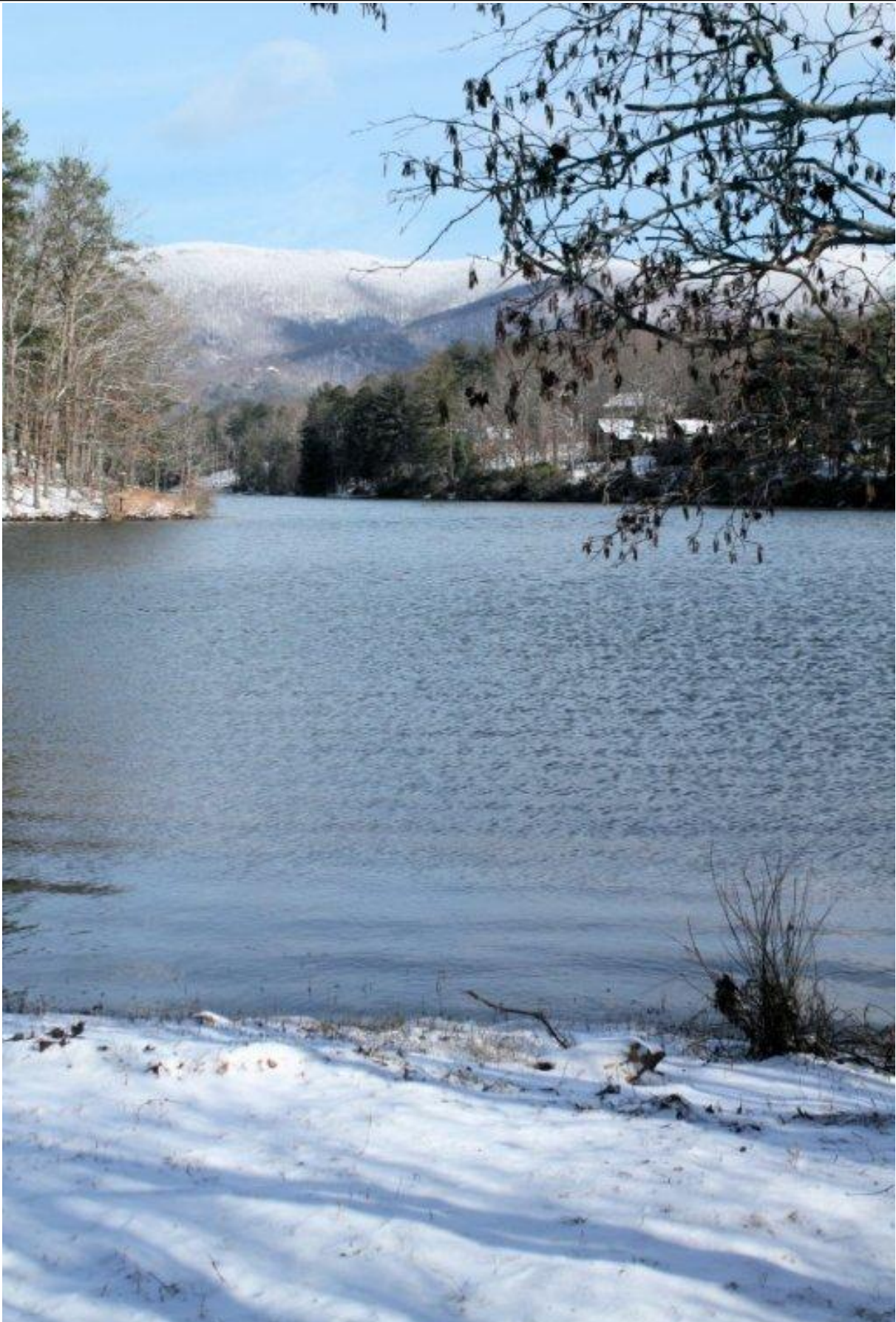
As of January 28th, we have 77 paid memberships for 2010. This is a great beginning for the new year, and I am hoping that all who want to renew their memberships will do so by the deadline of February 28th. After the 28th, the e-mail list will only include paid members up to that date. Don't miss out on any important BTSC news by letting your membership expire. Send your completed forms and checks payable to BTSC to: Rosemary King, Secretary, BTSC; 1000 Matthews Road; Jasper, GA 30143.

Rosemary

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance	\$3631.72
Deposits:	
Dues	\$ 630.00
Kickoff	\$ 780.00
Clearance merchandise	\$ 360.00
more dues	\$ 195.00
Checks written:	
(Insurance Premium)	\$ 237.50
(Booth Museum)	\$ 945.74
(Crust - entertainment)	\$ 150.00
(TDS Telecom – hotline)	\$ 74.40
Scholarship fund	\$1235.00
Ending Balance (1-26-10)	\$4189.08

Tami



Lake Tamarack

Byron Hutson
404 791 6609



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2010 Officer

President: Rich Vigue
 Vice-President: Georgianna Hunter
 Treasurer: Tami Tyson
 Secretary: Rosemary King
 (Newsletter Editor: DJ Suberk)
 Bent Tree Liaison: Jan Lorenzen
 Board Appointees:
 Don House
 Barbara Hutson

Saddle Club Hotline
770-893-1489

Check the hotline if
 weather threatens to
 interfere with a
 scheduled event.

BTSC February 2010 Fridge Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 RSVP due for Super Bowl Party	5	6
7 Super Bowl Party	8	9	10	11 RSVP for Garland Mt. Workday	12	13 Workday at Garland Mountain
14	15	16	17 RSVP due Bruce Prince Memorial Ride	18	19	20
21 Bruce Prince Memorial Ride	22	23	24 RSVP due for All-Day Ride	25	26	27
28 All-Day Ride Membership Renewals due	March 1 RSVP due for Mount Rogers Trip	THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER! RENEW NOW!				

2010 Bent Tree Saddle Club Calendar

February		
	7	Super Bowl Party Randy Taylor/Martha Prince
	13	Workday at Garland Mountain Rich Vigue
	21	Bruce Prince Memorial Ride Bob Crowl/Martha Prince
	28	All Day Ride Rich Vigue/Don & Nickie house
March		
	6	Horse Park Workday David & Rosemary King
	13	GA State Parks Workday Rich Vigue
	20	O-Mok-See #1 Jena/Val
April		
	3	All Day Ride Rich Vigue
	9, 10, 11	Firefly Acres Pete & Bambi Dillingham
	17	Gen'l Meeting Russ & Whit Wright
	18	Scavenger Hunt Deborah Sorenson
	25	Dawson Forest Ride Claire Eubanks
May		
	1	Kentucky Derby Party Lee & Ann Burger
	15	General Meeting – HP Rich Vigue
	22	O-Mok-See #2 Jena/Val
	29	Fun Show & Memorial Day Picnic Claire Eubanks/Julie Heinsman
June		
	5	Workday at Jake/Bull Rich Vigue
	12	Shootout Keith Hunter
	19	General Meeting – HP Rich Vigue
	21-27	Mount Rogers, VA Trip Judy Heilman
	27-7/3	Youth Fest Keeve Krasner/Bob Crowl
July		
	4	BYOE Picnic & Fireworks HP & BT
	17	Poker Night John & Gail Heinsman
August		
	7	Golf Tournament Charles Cates
	14	Movie Night David & Rosemary King
September		
	4	Horse Show & Labor Day Picnic Jan Lorenzen/Tami Tyson
	25	Obstacle Course David & Rosemary King
October		
	9	Garbage Can Cookout & Gen. Mtg Julie Heinsman
	23	O-Mok-See #3 Jena/Val
	27-31	Fall Trip Julie Heinsman
November		
	13	Moderate Trail Challenge Rich Vigue
	20	Thanksgiving Dinner & Meeting Bob & Peggy Crowl
December		
	4	Top of the World Ride Jena/Val
	10	Trim a Tree Janet Vigue
	11	Christmas Party Janet Vigue

BTSC Executive Committee Meetings:

2/19, 11/12 at Bent Tree Cottage

3/26, 4/16, 6/04, 8/06, 9/11, 10/08 at Horse Park

Bent Tree Saddle Club – 2010 Membership Application

Name: _____ Membership Type (Dues): _____ (Payable to Bent Tree Saddle Club)

1st: _____ Reg (\$30) _____ (first member must be a regular membership for \$30)

Are you a Bent Tree property owner? (Y) (N) Do you board a horse at Bent Tree Stables: (Y) (N)

2nd: _____ Reg (\$30) _____ Social/Non-Rider (\$15) _____

3rd: _____ Reg (\$30) _____ Social/Non-Rider (\$15) _____

___ The information in the Club's records is correct. (No changes from last year.)

___ Please make the following changes or additions to the Club's records: (Please print clearly.)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Secondary Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

DUES AND SIGNED ACKNOWLEDGMENT, NOTICE AND RELEASE (below) MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION. New member 2009 Dues are effective October 2009 through December 2010. Renewal Dues apply to the calendar year. Mail application and check to: **Bent Tree Saddle Club, c/o Rosemary King, 1000 Matthews Road, 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 contemplated 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 effect 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.

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 Property owners)

1. _____

2. _____
