

## *Upcoming Events*

### **BYOE Picnic & Fireworks Saturday July 3rd**

The Saddle Club has reserved the Horse Park for a July 3rd picnic starting at 6pm. As usual, it will be BYOExC. At dusk we'll head to the dam to watch the Bent Tree Fireworks display. No reservations are required.

*Rich*

### **Poker Night Saturday July 17th**

John and Gail Heinsman will be hosting the infamous Poker Night in their home at 487 Fox Run Court. Plan to arrive at 6:30pm with play to start at 7pm. The cost is \$7 for players and there will be no charge for observers.

Please bring a dessert or snack foods to share. It is BYOB as usual.

Awards will be presented at the conclusion of play.

This event was held a few years ago and proved to be a lot of fun. Even for me and I was knocked out early in play. Just a tip - if you want to stay in the game for a while, don't pick the table that has either Joyce Delay or Keith Hunter at it.. These two are cold blooded, experienced, heartless sharks.

Please let John know if you plan to attend no later than Wednesday July 14th by calling him at **770-894-4008**.

*Rich*

### **BTSC Road Apple Open Dinner and General meeting August 7<sup>th</sup>**

Dust off those clubs, buy a dozen balls (you may need them all) and invite your friends and/or significant others to join you August 7<sup>th</sup> at the Bent Tree Saddle Club Golf Outing, Dinner, and General Meeting.

We have ordered up a cool break in this hot, hot weather. You do not need to be a Tiger Woods - perhaps that is the wrong comparison - how about Phil Michelson. You don't even have to know which end of the club to use to have fun at the BTSC Road Apple Open. All you need is a willing attitude and a sense of humor.

T times begin at 3:p.m. Cost is \$15 plus Cart and Greens Fees. All charitable proceeds go to The Bent Tree Scholarship Fund. You can form your own team (foursome) or we will form one for you.

Dinner will be at 6:p.m. at the 19<sup>th</sup> Hole at Bent Tree followed by the General Meeting. To make your dinner reservation, call the 19<sup>th</sup> Hole **770-893-2621**.

More details will be sent out later, but for now call Charles Cates **706-268-6461** or e-mail him at charlescates@tds.net if you have a team or would like to be added to a team.

We are hoping everyone will get out of the saddle long enough to join in the fun.

*Charles Cates*

### **BENT TREE SADDLE CLUB SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Bent Tree Saddle Club Scholarship committee is pleased to announce the awards for 2010. We had an extremely difficult task selecting a winner. In the final analysis, two applicants clearly met all the requirements and our committee ratings were so close-a virtual tie-we decided to make two awards.

**The winners are Laura Adams and Theresa Fike.** Laura and Theresa are both third year Veterinary School students at the University of Georgia. Laura, the daughter of Stan and Paula Adams of west Pickens County, is a graduate of Pickens High School and UGA. Theresa, the granddaughter of Jack and Martha Kerley of Bent Tree, is a graduate of North Atlanta High School and UGA. Both young women have excelled academically at all levels in addition to working extensively outside of school for experience and financial support. Both are excellent citizens of the community, are experienced horsewomen and have committed to animal science as their career. More background on Laura and Theresa's accomplishments and qualifications will be provided in future issues of this Newsletter.

When we announced the existence of the scholarship program, we indicated that we would award up to \$1000 to one candidate, or two awards with a minimum of \$500 to each person. We have over \$1200 available for 2010 awards so we decided to make the awards in the amount of \$600 each to be provided to them in the near future. They will be using the money to help cover the many expenses involved with pursuing their educations. Please join us in congratulating Laura, Theresa, and their families.

Thank you again, members, for your support in this worthy endeavor.

Also, many special thanks go to Rosemary, Val, and Charles for working with me on the committee. There has been a lot of work but this is a very rewarding job!

*Don House*

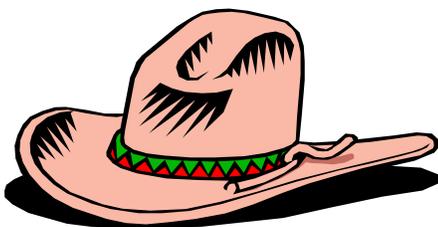
**President's Column**

Time flies when you're having fun. Here we are already half way through the year. We've had some great events and our participation is up. We have averaged 37 members at the 3 General Meetings we've had so far this year. That's a very good number for us. Thanks to all of you who have been participating in our events. You make it happen. To the others, all I can say is that you're missing out on a lot of fun.

Our membership demography and guest policy continue to be much discussed topics with opinions being all over the lot. Most arena events are for members only. Guests are allowed on trail rides and at general meetings with the host's permission. The same is true for most of our annual trips. However, the biennial guest ranch trip has been closed to non-members. In the past, we've had people join the club for one year just so they can go on that trip at our negotiated discounted price. With our current membership policy that may not be possible next year for non property owners. Rosemary King has agreed to spearhead a search for next year's trip. Hopefully, we'll be in a position to decide on the venue and date by early September. If you have an opinion in regards to membership and guest policy, please don't keep it to yourself. This isn't a question of what's right or wrong. It's a question of what's best for the club. We are in this thing together. The Executive Committee welcomes your thoughts on this.

Have a great July and stay out of the heat.

*Rich*



**Workday at Jake/Bull Mountains Recap**

5 Saddle Club members participated in the CTHA workday scheduled for Jake Mountain on National Trails Day, Saturday June 5th. Bob Crawl, Kathy Hardin, Georgianna Hunter, John Wilder and myself, Rich Vigue arrived at the Jake Trailhead at 9am where we joined approximately 20 CTHA members and headed out to clear a new trail being built to by-pass Wilder's Rut (see November 2006 Newsletter). Although the sky was overcast, rain wasn't predicted until later in the day. Unfortunately, after only a few hours of work a heavy storm struck. With no signs that it was going to ease up any time soon, work was called and we headed back to the trail head. While the gals loaded into a pickup truck for the 20 minute ride back, John and I rode in the bed of the truck. John was able to secure a slicker from Kathy. The rain kept coming down hard and soon I was squatting in a puddle of water. By the time we got to the trailhead there wasn't a dry spot on my body. I looked like a river rat. John, of course, looked like the Marlboro man. My thanks to those who participated in this shortened effort. We do use these trails occasionally and it was good to have BTSC represented on this workday.

*Rich*

**Shootout at Montana East Recap Saturday June 12th**

We had a phenomenal turnout of 49 people show up for the 2nd annual Shootout benefitting the BTSC Scholarship Fund. While the threat of rain was minimal, the heat wave was definitely a consideration. Keith Hunter again did a stellar job of organizing and running the event. 31 shooters participated in the morning shootout. My son-in-law, Patrick Taggart, and his friend Will Simmons tied with perfect scores - 5 hits with pistol, 5 hits with rifle, and 5 hits with shotgun. Will quickly disposed of Patrick in the playoff. Actually, Patrick disposed himself when he missed the first clay pigeon. However, the real winner was the scholarship fund. We exceeded our objective of \$1,000 generating \$1,150 for the fund. A huge "Thanks" to Keith and his range crew. Also, a big thank you to all the volunteers who helped check in people, pick up and set up lunch, set up and tear down the course. Our property was completely back to normal by 5pm that day.

*Rich*

**General Meeting Recap Saturday, June 19th**

It must have been the venue. Maybe it was the program. Whatever it was, we had 42 people meet at 6pm at Hillside Farm for our 3rd general meeting of the year.

The meeting was held prior to the program and the membership approved a \$2,500 budget for next year's 20th anniversary event.

We discussed a new policy with back gate openings for trailers during BTSC Horse park events. There will be 3 opening times - one just before the event; one immediately after the event; and one after the cookout. That's it - no exceptions.

Georgianna Hunter displayed horse portraits she has completed of two of the Vigue's horses and Linda Magness discussed her plans to produce a Saddle Club recipe book with the proceeds going to an equine rescue organization.

The program consisted of a discussion and demonstration given by 20 year veterans of the Paint Horse circuit, Beth and Bubba Nixa, of showing in Halter and Showmanship at Halter. The demonstration was given using their 17 year old retired APHA show mare Allison (Hits A Classy Lass), who accumulated 42 Halter points. These two know what they're doing. They talked technique, grooming, conformation, what the judges look for, what they do to get the horse fit to be shown, and life on the horse show trail.

Tami Tyson showed us a couple horses from her Pedal Bone Farm - Rowdy (Whata Rowdy Rich Boy), a 12 year old AQHA horse owned by Mariellen Schultz and Tigger (Tigger Wolf), her 4 year old APHA horse. All these horses were presented to us as they would have been shown in the actual show arena.

This was a very special event. Many thanks to our hosts Don and Nickie House, and Beth and Bubba Nixa.



**Missing from Mt. Rogers photo: Janice Butt & Allen Hardin.**

**Mount Rogers Recap  
June 21 -27**

Twelve Saddle Club members and 3 guests made their way to the Elk Creek Valley of southwest Virginia during the week of June 21st.

By Wednesday evening everyone had arrived at Judy Heilman's place. Each night dinner was served on the lawn in front of Judy's porch. It reminded me of scenes from movies such as Legends of the Fall - a delicious full course epicurean dinner served outdoors surrounded by some of the best scenery I've ever seen in the Southeast. And the riding wasn't bad either.

The Mount Rogers National Recreation Area has more than 400 miles of trails, many of which are open to horseback riders. Every morning, people trailered from Judy's to different trailheads. My favorite ride took us from the Massie Gap trailhead in Grayson Highlands State Park to an area named Scales in the Mount Rogers High Country. Due to the scenery, I felt as though we were riding somewhere in southwest Montana.

We can't thank Judy Heilman enough. She made this a great event. While we didn't take a vote, there's no doubt that we'd all go back next year. Sorry Judy, but I think this should become an annual trip.

*Rich*

**Treasurer's Report, June 2010**

Beginning Balance		\$4,104.22
Checks Written:		
Tami Tyson/Reimbursement	\$ 110.00	
TDS Telecom(3 months hotline	\$ 22.32	
Kathy Hardin//Reimbursement	\$ 42.40	
Keith Hunter/Reimbursement	\$ 320.00	
Deposits:		
Ky Derby party	\$ 30.00	
Shoot Out	\$1,470.00	
Ending Balance: June 27, 2010		\$2,821.50
Scholarship Fund		\$2,288.00
		<i>Tami Tyson</i>

**Secretary's Report**

Thus far, it has been a fairly quiet summer, even if it has been one of the hottest. Our membership remains at 135 and we now have eight people on the waiting list. Even the number of e-mails being forwarded has slowed down. That's a good thing, right?

On a serious note, I would like to ask you to share thoughts and prayers with Judy Heilman and David Sorenson. Judy for the loss of her father, and David for the loss of his mother. This has been an especially tragic time for David as he has lost both his parents within 8 weeks time. His father died in May and his mother, Mary, died early Sunday morning, just a week after her 87<sup>th</sup> birthday. They are planning a celebration of her life in Toronto later this summer. Our condolences and sympathy go out to both of them and their families during these sad and difficult times.

On a lighter note, Bob and Sharon Eikenberry's horse, Topaz, is finally home from UGA after an extended visit and several surgeries. Bob says he's holding his own and actually putting weight on his leg again. Go Topaz! We are pulling for you.

Rumor has it that one of our members is expecting her first baby next February. And this is the two-legged species! I don't see this condition slowing this cowgirl down much. Who knows, this child may actually be born in a barn! Okay Claire Bear, you better do what the doctor says..... And congratulations, Dave!

It is possible that the date of the Obstacle Course competition may have to be moved up a week, but I will let you know as soon as I can confirm the date.

*Rosemary*

## Get Ready for the September 4<sup>th</sup> Horse Show

The upcoming horse show scheduled for September 4<sup>th</sup> promises to have something for everyone.

We plan to have the following classes:

- Western Pleasure
- Western Halter
- Gaited Horses
- Hunter Under Saddle
- Jumping
- Barrel Racing
- Pole Bending
- Western Trail
- Drill Team Performance

The pony club has been invited and will do their thing in the morning at 9am. Yup, that's right - 9am. We want to start early as we have an entire day planned. We are hoping for a lunch meal to be catered with proceeds going to a charitable organization. The Pony Club will be selling drinks, and, hopefully, the Bent Tree Shutterbugs will be there to take pictures of you and your faithful mount.

The cost will be \$10.00 to enter 3 classes, but you may enter more at a cost of \$2.00 for each additional class.

Following is a description of the requirements for each class, so you will have time to sharpen your skills. Please watch your emails from Rosemary and more will be published in the August newsletter.

### WESTERN PLEASURE

Emphasis is placed on the horse's performance and will also be judged on apparent ability to give a good pleasurable ride with manners according to the breed being shown. Horses will be judged at the walk, jog or intermediate gait and lope in both directions. Horses will be required to back at which time they should back readily and stand quietly. The horse must be presented with clean, neat western tack.

### WESTERN HALTER

You saw it at Beth and Bubba's house now it is your time to shine! Horses will be judged on conformation and neatness. Get started now on your grooming; it will pay off!

### GAITED HORSES

**Flat Walk (walk):** The flat walk should be bold and four-cornered with an evenly timed 1-2-3-4 beat.

**Running Walk/rack/fox trot:** The running walk has the same beat or evenly timed footfall 1-2-3-4 as the flat walk, but is much smoother with greater stride, rhythm and natural motion. A correctly performed running walk is truly a gait of ease, producing a clearly heard and easily counted 4 beat tempo. This gait should be consistent and balanced and should appear easy and comfortable to ride.

**Canter:** a three beat forward motion demonstrated on the correct lead for the direction of travel.

Positive credit will be given to horses that display such qualities as responsiveness, steadiness, manners and traveling on a

loose rein. All entries shall be clean, neatly trimmed, in good flesh presenting a healthy appearance, and outfitted in clean and appropriate tack.

### HUNTER UNDER SADDLE

The horse is to be judged on performance, apparent ability to give a good pleasurable ride, and manners according to the breed being shown. Exhibitors will enter the ring at a posting trot or intermediate gait in a counter-clockwise direction. They shall then go at least once around the ring at each of the three gaits of walk, trot and canter. They will then be asked to reverse and repeat the procedure. The Judge may request an extended gait or may ask for the halt and horses must stand quietly on a free rein. You may be required to back your horse. Tack will consist of an English saddle and bridle. The horse must be presented clean with neat tack.

### JUMPING

Horses will be asked to complete a course of 8 standard jumps not to exceed 2' in height. Appropriate English tack and attire is necessary.

### BARREL RACING

A speed event performed in the standard clover leaf pattern. Two runs are allowed but not required.

### POLE BENDING

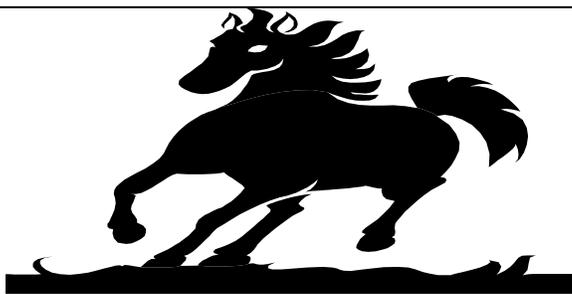
A speed event in the standard weaving pattern. Two runs are allowed, but not required.

### WESTERN TRAIL

Horses will be asked to negotiate a series of obstacles mimicking those found on the trail. Start de-spooking your horses now! Walk, trot and canter will be required.

If you have any questions, please email Tami Tyson at [pedalbone@frontiernet.net](mailto:pedalbone@frontiernet.net) or Jan Lorenzen at [jlorenzen@tds.net](mailto:jlorenzen@tds.net).

Elaine Kaiser has volunteered her services to assist anyone who is interested in sharpening their skills or just needs assistance with practice. She can be reached via email at [horsey1207@gmail.com](mailto:horsey1207@gmail.com) or by calling her at 706-253-2693



**BTSC 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Videography**

As most of you know, the BTSC celebrates its 20th year in 2011. In anticipation of this landmark anniversary, I have volunteered to do a video retrospective of the last twenty years. The retrospective will include still shots, video interviews with members past and present and much more. I'd like to make this project as comprehensive as possible and even though I've been a member since the first meeting at the 19th Hole in 1991, I need your help filling in some gaps. Thanks to Gloria and Rick Skinner, the early days of the Club are well documented.

Specifically, I'm looking for the following:

\* **NEWSLETTERS** from 1992 - 1995 and 2003 - 2006 (*Rich & Janet have all of 2005*)

\* **PHOTOS** from the following trips:

- Little St. Simons
- Historic Pines Ranch, Westcliffe, CO
- Eatons Ranch, Wyoming
- Ireland
- Lazy L & B, Wyoming
- Local trailering trips (VA, East Fork, etc.)

\*\* NOTE: Please only choose the "**best of the best**" from your photos and limit the number you send me to 5 to 10. Group shots are especially coveted. Out of focus shots need not apply!

\* **ICONIC PHOTOS** from any event - you know the ones I'm talking about...the absolute must haves.

\* **YOUR STORIES** - classic riding stories, heartwarming tales, funny stories (lord knows there are a plethora of those). For example, did you know that one all day ride back in February of 1999 left an hour late because of John and Laura Wilder? Turns out the Wilders, who live in Dunwoody, got half way to the barn only to discover Miss Laura did not have any pants on. Thermal underwear - check. Pants-not so much. Classic. Be as detailed as you like (please include participants and the year) and as many as you like. The editorial staff will take it from there.

Once everyone has submitted their photos and stories, we'll review them and develop the script. Then the videotaped interviews will begin! Please submit your stories and photos to me via e-mail to [jfin@tds.net](mailto:jfin@tds.net) by **July 9th**. All photos should be submitted digitally ONLY (via e-mail, jump drive, disk) to me by the same date.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions and feel free to forward this to past BTSC members!. I look forward to receiving your photos and stories.

*Jena*

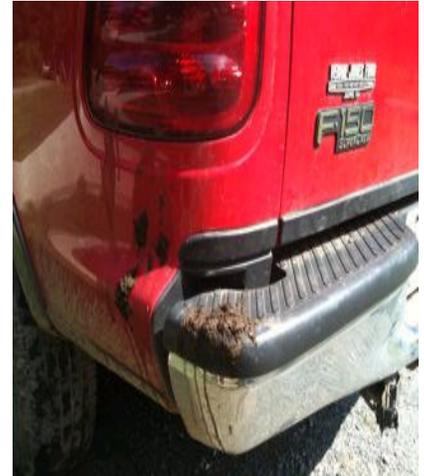
**Pictures from the Great Montana East Shootout.**

Byron Hutson  
404 791 6609



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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 and Website  
 770-893-1489  
 www.BTSC.info**

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

# BTSC July 2010 Fridge Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 BYOExC picnic at the arena
4	5	6	7	8	9 20th Anniversary Stuff to Jena	10
11	12	13	14 RSVP for Poker Night	15	16	17 Poker Night
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



**2010 Bent Tree Saddle Club Calendar**

July			
	3	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

