

Rockdale Trail Blazers



We are an all-breed club with a mission to ride and have fun
in a noncompetitive atmosphere.

June 2008

If you missed our last meeting you missed an excellent speaker in Huey Atkins. Huey updated us on typical injuries while riding and what we need to do to keep safe.

Many questions were asked and Huey was able to answer everyone. We really appreciate his taking time to join us and hope he will again become a familiar face at some of our rides.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, July 17th at Thomas' Buffet at The Depot in Covington at 7:00 p.m. Come early to eat. Good food and great service!

If you have not checked out the website lately, please do! Ken Bell has done a wonderful job. Be sure to sign up for the announcement list on the home page for information and updates.

www.rockdaletrailblazers.org

If you have access to Email, please let us know so that we may send your newsletter via email. It will save a lot of money and time to be able to send you the newsletter this way. If your email has changed since you joined or changes in the future PLEASE let us know. You may email Don Patton at doncoboyup@alltel.net or Gene Owen at horsesaz@yahoo.com

Our Fall Ride has been Moved!

Please join us at Fort Mountain State Park for our Fall Ride on October 3rd through 5th for some great trails and fantastic fellowship.

Gates will open at 9 AM Friday morning. Early arrivals will need to make arrangements with Neil Harrison of Cherokee Creek Stables at 706-537-5779

★★★ Membership News ★★★

WELCOME NEW RTB MEMBERS!!!!

It's a pleasure to have you as part of our club:
Larry Brince

WELCOME RENEWING RTB MEMBERS!!!

David & Audrey Masey
Ron & Chrystal Sherwood
Lynn Limardo
Robert & Shelby Anderson
Matt Gardner
Ron & Adriane Cook
Linda Storey

Anyone going to the Buffalo River Trail Ride in July, Contact Don Patton at 770-867-4893 or via email at doncoboyup@alltel.net or Tom Dixe at 770-483-3007 to put your name on the list to receive the club credit. Club credit is given to 10 or more club riders registered for the week. The ride is July 21 – 27, 2008

Make plans now to join us in August when Lewie Fortner will come to talk about a proposal to begin an annual Rockdale Trail Blazer Reunion. Please help spread the word to our past members and/or members who have not been able to attend a meeting!

This ride would be for all members past and present. A great way to reconnect with folks we haven't seen in a while!

From the President

If you were not able to join us at Clayton or at the Rim in July, you missed some great riding! Make sure you put August 16 on your calendar to join us for a midnight ride at Ron and Adriane's!

July 4th, at Warwoman in Clayton several rigs were in attendance. On Friday, several small groups went out in between rain showers. We got back in time to clean up for dinner and as darkness fell, we were pleasantly surprised to see fireworks almost directly overhead! As we applauded the display, another fireworks display started up on the mountain behind us. These were not backyard fireworks! Each display lasted about 15 minutes. How perfect to be able to sit back and enjoy the fireworks while our horses were 10 feet away!

Nine riders went out on Saturday with Gene at Clayton for a "short" ride returning about 5 PM. We rode through the woods to Earls Ford, enjoying the cold water along with about 100 residents. The crowds were out at Clayton for the 4th! We met several groups of enthusiastic horse riders and a lot of nice folks just out enjoying the weekend on the river. We were able to help a hiking family who found themselves temporarily misplaced and we were able to guide them to the Bartram Trail and boy those folks could out walk a lot of horses I have ridden with!

I am thankful for the enthusiasm of our current board members. It seems that we all have the same goals in common and a desire to work towards those goals together. They are incredibly easy to work with and very supportive. Please let them know that you appreciate their efforts that make the Rockdale Trail Blazers a great organization.

Gene Owen 404-234-9993

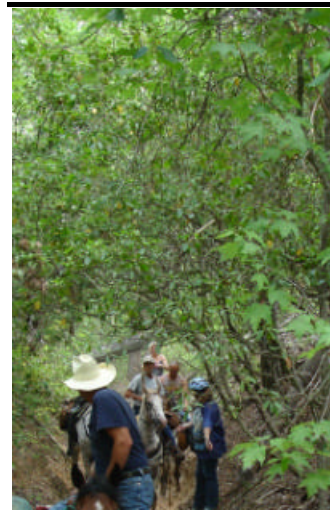
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Rockdale Trail Blazer Board Meeting

***Our next board meeting will be
in August 12th at Marilyn Vanne's
house. Everyone is welcome.***

For directions, 770-880-3500

Scenes from Clayton, July 2008



***The riding was
fantastic as always!***



RTB working at the Rim July 2008

Rick Jones led several folks on an 8-day riding and working trip at the Rim in Highlands NC. Riding everyday, Rick and several RTB members and friends cleared the entire Rim trail along with 4 of the 8 trails up to the Rim. Rick said the weather was perfect. Temperatures were in the 40's at night and didn't go over 70 for the first few days. They did get some rain, but it came in at night giving them perfect riding weather! The scenery is beautiful at the Rim and Rick intends to go back several times in the next few months. If you are interested in going or if you need information about these trails, please give Rick Jones a call at 770-786-5535

We Want to See You

ROCKDALE TRAIL BLAZER MEETING

Thursday, July 17th 2008
at 7:00 p.m at Thomas' Buffet at the Depot
in Covington, Georgia

Please make plans to be at the meeting.
We know that everyone is busy and can't always make the meetings, but it is so good to see everyone come and we always have a good time. Make plans to attend the meeting. We look forward to seeing YOU!

2008 Board Member Contacts

President – Gene Owen

c. 404-234-9993 horsesaz@yahoo.com

Vice President – Gail Wiley

h. 706-207-8017 ghwiley@myway.com

Secretary – VACANT

Treasurer – Don Patton

h. 770-867-4893 c. 404-310-7243

doncoboyup@alltell.net

Program Chairman – Marilyn Vanne

h. 770-388-9891 c. 770-880-3500

sunnyrosemarilyn@bellsouth.net

Public Relations – Ken Bell

c. 678-360-6895 ken@klbcomputer.com

2008 Executive Committee

Tom Dixie

h. 770-483-3007 tomDixie@netscape.net

Sheila Ervin

h. 770-787-0519 Limosheila@yahoo.com

Deb Hilty

c. 404-791-0960 debhilty@gmail.com

L. Jo Jones

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Rick Jones

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ervinjones@hotmail.com

John Morgan

h. 770-787-9588 johnmorgan@bellsouth.net

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered
for a position with the club

Upcoming Rides

August 16th – Looking forward to a Moonlight Ride? Come join us at Ron & Adriane's in Round Oak on **August 16th**. For more information please contact Gene Owen at 404-234-9993

September 12th –14th – Little River Canyon National Preserve – Fort Payne, AL. Little River Canyon is a 14,000-acre preserve that protects the nation's longest mountaintop river, which flows for almost its entire length down the middle of Lookout Mountain in northeast Alabama. We will be camping on private land and have water available. **We need to know how many people are interested in going before September 1** in order to make final plans. For more information and/or to let us know you are interested, please call Gene Owen at 404-234-9993

October 3^d – 5th – Fall Ride at Fort Mountain State Park in Chatsworth, Georgia. Beautiful mountain trails and the nicest folks to camp and ride with around! Join us for two dances and drawings for a TV, GPS unit and cash! More details to follow. If you need more information, please call Gene at 404-234-9993

Meet your new Vice President

Gail Wiley has accepted the position of Vice President and we asked that she tell us a little about herself!

I grew up on a dairy farm in Watkinsville, GA, and riding horses there as well. After high school, I went to Virginia Tech to major in Dairy Science/pre vet. After my first year there, I came back home and had my son, Blake, who is now almost 16. I then finished my degree at UGA, but changed my major to Ag Education. I taught Agriculture and was an FFA advisor at Murray County High School for two years. Realizing then that being a teacher was not my calling, and wanting to be back closer to home, I moved back to Watkinsville and became an insurance agent with Farm Bureau. After 8 1/2 years there, I am now once again searching for my "calling". My parents sold our farm in 1994 to UGA - it is used by the Vet School there. From 1992 to 2002, I had no access to horses at all. By a fluke, I got introduced to organized trail riding in 2002. Since then, I have met so many wonderful people, many of whom are like family to me. I also have three horses - Rusty, my Tennessee Walker, Lightning, my quarter horse, and Homer, my Percheron, who is my buggy horse. I also have three dogs (two Aussies and a Golden Retriever) and six cats. I love to ride in new places, and can never get enough of it! I could ride all day for days and not get tired of it. I absolutely don't know where I would be without my horses, trail riding friends, and the opportunity to go ride. I have been and continue to be very blessed!

Be sure to purchase your **Georgia Equine Tag** to show your support. To pre-order a plate, go to any motor vehicle tag office and fill out a form for a special interest plate and specify the Georgia Equine Industry plate. Keep the \$25 receipt to prove it was paid. You'll need it when you pay for your tags.

July Board Meeting Minutes

Notes from RTB Executive Committee Meeting – July 9, 2008

1. Fall ride changed to Ft. Mountain State Park due to conflict on Ron and Adriane's Private land with hunting season.
2. Will raffle a TV, GPS and a gift certificate at the RTB Fall Ride. Deb will check on TV and GPS. Gene will cancel the food vendor.
3. Recommended to ride at Round Oak for the Spring Ride on private property and a mountain ride (or other) in the Fall to avoid hunting season.
4. Tom will check out where to get more RTB jackets embroidered.
5. Deb will check into ordering RTB polo shirts.
6. Rick will check with Horse Park about a benefit ride there in November. Need to discuss having food.
7. Rick will check with Hard Labor Creek State Park about scheduling a work day to clean up blow down. Hard Labor Creek wanted work done on a weekday.
8. Marilyn recommended keeping track of trail work hours and reporting in newsletter.
9. Gene asked if anyone would like to take over the Secretary position, as Kerry may not be able to help anymore.
10. Discussed "adopting" a park or trail. May be better to only do a six month commitment or be "on call" for the rangers.
11. Gene is taking bridge building materials to Ron Cook in Round Oak. Discussed a fundraiser to buy lumber and assist in installation.

BUY * SELL * TRADE * SERVICES

Rockdale Trail Blazer Stuff: New shirts & tank tops have been ordered; we have black, red, and purple T-shirts, & tanks \$12.00 each. Call Deb Hilty at 404-791-0960.

DJ by Rocket: Yep, I have all the right stuff to make your social event. Call for more info 404-435-8920.

Horse Boarding, Training, Riding Lessons Specializing in Adults new to horses or Starting over. Safe Horsemanship with a Woman's Touch. Gudrun Dees 2887 South Ola Road Locust Grove, Ga. 30248 (770) 634-5812
a 2008 Business Sponsor: paradiselessons@yahoo.com or www.paradise-ranch.com

For Sale: 20 Ft. Gooseneck Trailer 7 ft. Dressing room, AC, mats, new floor and paint. \$2500.00 Contact Randy Kesler at 678-858-5909

3 SADDLES FOR SALE: 1 "Simco" Western Saddle
1 "American" Western Saddle, 1 "Lane Fox" 4" English Cutback, Price Range from \$200 to \$400 Maxine Campe 770-929-0737

For Sale: 1998 Sundowner Siesta 8008 Full living quarters, 8 foot short wall, 3 H slant, aluminum, range, refrigerator, microwave, drop down bus windows, face guards, solar battery charger, rear tack, stud wall, side storage compartment, extra water tank, great condition, \$24,000 call 770-880-3500 or 770-388-9891

Kittens Need a Home! Two healthy, playful, 9 week old male kittens. Yellow tabbies with white marking. Already neutered. Can be pets or barn cats. Will separate to good homes. Call 770-483-6857 or 770-655-0671

Two Saddles for Sale – One is a barrel saddle, one is a pleasure saddle. Good quality. Call Christy for more information at 612-207-6920

Benefit for Bradley Smith – Rocket is looking for donations for a benefit yard sale to be held August 2, 2008. Please call Rocket at 770-784-5421 if you have items to donate.

WANTED

18" Australian Saddle (no horn) for a broad backed horse.
Maxine Campe 770-929-0737

South Park in Rockdale County has horse trails

RTB members Rick Jones and Mike Medlock have been spending a lot of time recently working on trails at South Park.

South Park is located on East Fairview Road and has facilities for day riding. The trails are under development and once completed Rick thinks it will compare to the Horse Park .

They would love to have some help on the trails. If you would like to help, or for more information call Rick Jones.

July Birthdays

Adriane Altman – July 6th

Ron Cook – July 9th

Angie Johnson ~ July 24th

Mary Wilson ~ July 19th

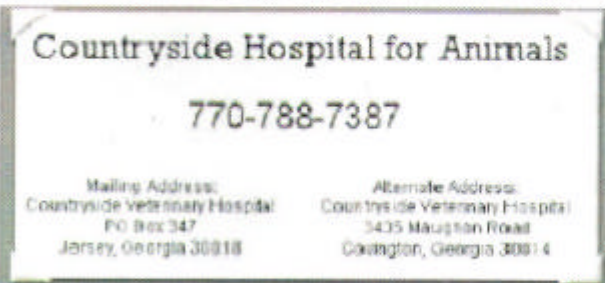
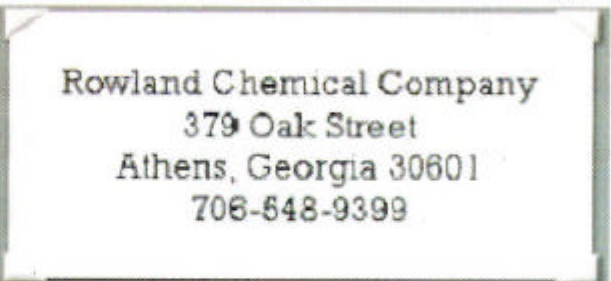


Happy Birthday to You....

If anyone has been left out, please let us know so we won't skip you next year!

**Please support our
2008 Rockdale Trail Blazers Associate Members**

If you would like to become an Associate Member and have your business card listed in our newsletter please contact us.



**Rockdale Trail Blazers
P.O. Box 236
Conyers, GA 30012**

Please look online for a current Membership Application and return to the address above with your payment or bring it with you to the next meeting. We need an application along with your new membership or renewing membership for our records. If you need one and are unable to access the web, contact any board member and we will mail one to you.



Meeting



Now Meeting at Thomas' Buffet
in Covington at the old Depot



Each Month on the
Third Thursday
Begins at 7 PM

Come early to eat
www.rockdaletrailblazers.org

Rockdale Trail Blazers
P.O. Box 236
Conyers GA 30012

