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Kel-Mac Saddle Club
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**KEL-MAC SADDLE CLUB NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2021**

**MINUTES OF MEETING
KEL-MAC SADDLE CLUB
October 20, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by President, David Yann, at 7:00 at the Oconee County Library, Watsonville.

Secretary's Report: The September minutes were approved as published in the October 1 Kel-Mac Monthly Newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's Report: Gloria Belvan provided report after meeting.

Beginning Balance:	\$5,893.91
Deposits:	+1,388.10
Withdrawals:	<u>-1,357.00</u>
Ending Balance:	\$5,925.10

Show Report: Susie thanked the volunteers for the October show. The dates for the 2022 shows:

April 9

May 14

September 17

October 8

Trail Report: In Sharon Wood's absence, the following scheduled rides were discussed:
The campout at A.H. Stephens was a great success. There were lot's of food, and great riding every day. The weather couldn't have been better.

November:

Campout: November 5-7, Croft State Park, Spartanburg, SC, coordinator Gloria Belvan
Day Ride: November 20, Skull Shoals 10:00am

December:

Campout: TBD
Day Ride: December 18, Watson Mill 10:00am

Old Business:

Awards Banquet: further discussion regarding the Awards Banquet and location. With the low turnout at shows this year, we were not sure if there would be enough of a turnout for a banquet. Bonners in Buckhead was contacted, and they will open for us if we can provide a minimum of 40 to 50 people. They have been closed on Sunday due to the economy, and COVID concerns. We decided to continue our tradition, and have our banquet on December 5 at Bonners Restaurant. Please contact Barbara Cumming for your tickets (bcumming@bellsouth.net).

New Business:

Nominations of 2022 Officers:

If you have a nomination for any of the Kel-Mac offices, please submit it (or them) at the next meeting in person, or by contacting an officer or another person who plans to attend the meeting. Voting will occur at the November meeting. Nominations so far:

President: Susan McCullar
Vice President: Lisa Williamson
Secretary: Valerie Puryear
Treasurer: Gloria Belvan
Trail Boss: Sharon Wood
Show Chairperson: Susie Cottingim

Recipients of Show Funds:

We voted to award the Morgan County Christmas Stocking (Morgan County Sheriff's Dept) \$300 for their continued assistance in helping us set up jumps prior to shows. Please check with your local parks that have horse trails, and other horse-related organizations to determine if they have any particular needs. We are short on funds this year, so our ability to provide our usual contributions are limited. We will discuss any additional contributions at our November 19 meeting.

Shop-'Til-You-Drop: November 13 will be the annual Shop-'Til-You-Drop event. If you are interested in participating, meet at 9:00am in front of the Target store at Highways 81 and 316.

Dates to Remember:

Next Meeting – November 16 at the Watkinsville Library: 6:30pm fellowship; meeting starts at 7:00pm

Shop 'Til You Drop – November 13 at 9:00am – Hwys 81 and 316

Awards Banquet – December 5, Bonner's, Buckhead 4:30pm

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Rosemary Vogel, Secretary



No Dust Show Year

Suzanne Cottongim, Show Chairperson

At the beginning of the show season, we were so happy to be able to have the shows after having to cancel last year's events. Well, we had our shows, but they seemed to be plagued by threats of bad weather, and low turnout. In actuality, except for the last show, the weather wasn't a problem. Right before the October Show, we had a week of rain, so the arena was

"Mudville". We had to cancel the over fences classes for safety reasons, and had a later start. The footing improved with time, and the show went on without problems. The biggest class was the costume class, and it made us all smile. Our judge, Jerry Carter, had his hands full with that one.

I can't say enough about our volunteers who turned out to help others enjoy their horses and sport. You don't have to be on a horse to enjoy the benefits from our motto "Horsemanship, Sportsmanship and Friendship". Again, we really appreciated the horses, riders, and volunteers who supported Kel-Mac this year.

It's now time for the end of-the-year fun: Our Shop-Till-We-Drop Event, and the Awards Banquet. Don't miss out!



Dayle and Wendell Faulkner removing Autumn Olive, an invasive plant, at Heritage Park on October 26

Heritage Park and Hard Labor Creek Trail Update, by Jeanne Barsanti

The first work-day to remove invasive autumn olive on October 26 was a beautiful day. We headed down the road about 9 am, and began work to the right of the first bridge toward the barking dog bridge. People who did not work last year were very impressed to see the clear line between last year's work (no olive) and the remaining plants. The good news is that we do

seem to kill it. The bad news is that there is plenty left to do.

Wendell and Dayle Faulkner took their Kubota and removed the tree blocking the access to the switchback. They then went to the universal trail to remove autumn olive, starting from where they left off last year.

We quit at noon, and adjourned to enjoy cookies. We did not have many volunteers this time, just Wendell, Dayle, Jeanne, a county commissioner (!), the Athens Land Trust people, and some park personnel. We sure could use more help if you have the time. All supplies to remove the plant are provided (spray, manual loppers, gloves). You just need to bring water, plus any power cutting equipment you prefer.

SCHEDULED WORK DAYS

The November work days are Tuesday Nov 9, Tuesday Nov 23, and Saturday, Nov 27.

The December work days are Tuesday December 7, and Tuesday December 21.

The January work days are Tuesday January 4, and Monday January 17 (MLK day of service).

The February work days are Tuesday Feb 1, and Tuesday February 15.

If anyone can bring a UTV or a 4 wheeler, this would be very helpful for transporting supplies and people to the work areas. Horses can also serve as transport on the work-days. People who bring horses should plan to meet at the arena at 9 am to sign in and pick up the loppers and spray before riding out to work. Horse riders can concentrate on the back loop of the horse trail. You will need to tie your horses while you work.

The work involves cutting the plant a couple of inches above the ground and spraying the stump within 15 seconds. It is best if the cut plants are then placed in a pile. Fortunately, autumn olive is a soft wood, and not hard to cut.

Hard Labor Creek State Park Update

Dayle, Wendell and I removed 44 trees (!) from the entire blue loop, as well as the yellow and white trails. The trees varied from small to quite large. We did this work on October 18, so there's no guarantee there won't be more down when you go to ride. There are a few downed trees on the green/gray trails, but the park staff told us they would get these.

Happy Riding!

Images below show the progression of work at one site on the Hard Labor Creek State Park horse trails. The first image shows the trail blocked by fallen trees. Wendell Faulkner is cutting up the downed timber in the second image. Jeanne Barsanti and Dayle Faulkner worked to clear all the debris out of the trail. Jeanne is shown in the final image in the cleared section of trail.



Images below show Kel-Mac Club Members enjoying the trails and camping trips together.

Pictures courtesy of Barbara Cumming.



Twin Creek Equestrian

Set on a beautiful 57 acres close to Athens in Winterville, newly opened Twin Creek Equestrian offers trails, jumps, obstacles, pastures, paddocks, streams, a tack room, and a small lake.

Arlene Williams, along with her mother, Margreate Smith, and two sisters wanted to build a place that everyone could enjoy. "We have a lot of trails through the woods, some marked trails will have obstacles and jumps, just to keep the rider and their horses interested."

Twin Creek Equestrian is currently offering pasture or paddock board, but they plan on having a covered arena and a 15+ stall barn up and running within the next two years. Run-in sheds and a pole barn are planned for later this year.

If you would like to be a part of Twin Creek, they are looking for boarders. Twin Creek offers hay and, if requested, feeding, exercising, farriers, scheduling vaccines, and worming. Boarders are welcome to bring in their own trainers. You can get in touch with them at 706 534 5547.