



ATRA ON THE TRAIL

January 2020 Newsletter

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ATRA was established in 1973 for people interested in recreational riding & driving.

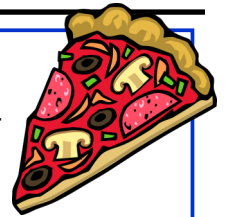
2019 Club Executive

President: Alexys Mishak
Vice-Pres: Rita Power
Secretary: Allison Downer
Treasurer: Cindy Hanas
Membership: Cindy Hanas
Casino: Shirley McFall
Newsletter: Allison Downer
Webmaster: Alexys Mishak
Directors at Large:
Doug King, Tracy Campbell, Cam Stevenson, Murray Few, Sharon Breitreuz, Pleman Downer, Maggie Portas.

ATRA is a non-profit family oriented organization that encompasses a variety of equestrian activities that promote safe horsemanship, ongoing education and responsible use, maintenance and development of trails.

REMINDER....

Members are invited to attend a 'Open' Board Meeting On Thursday, January 16 prior to the General Meeting on the same night! Bring your questions and ideas to share with the Board. A Light supper will be served at 5:30 pm. RSVP is Required to Maggie: Maggie.portas@icloud.com



GENERAL MEETING - GUEST SPEAKER



Evelyn Merrill
Professor, Biological Sciences
University of Alberta

Dr. Evelyn Merrill (Evie) is a Professor in the Dept. of Biological Sciences at the Univ. of Alberta. She received her MSc from the Univ. of Idaho and her PhD from the Univ. of Washington. She has conducted research on deer and elk foraging and habitat ecology for the past 40 years in a diversity of ecosystems across North America. She and her students' current research include a 19-year study of the trophic dynamics of a partially migratory elk population in the Rocky Mountains of Alberta, and spatial spread and population transmission of CWD in the prairies provinces of Canada. She is a Fellow of The Wildlife Society, served as President of The Canadian Section and the Alberta Chapter of The Wildlife Society, and is Canadian Section Representative to TWS, and as the Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Wildlife Management*. She was awarded Dedicated Service and the William Rowan Distinguished Professional Award from the Alberta Chapter of TWS, and the Wildlife Researcher Award from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Her hobbies include traveling, gardening, horseback riding and entertaining her grandkids.

ATRA meets 7pm the 3rd Thursday of the month Jan-Apr/Sept-Nov upstairs at Kirk United Church Centre, 13535-122 Avenue, Edmonton.

Visitors are welcome at any meeting. Website: www.atra.ca Membership for the calendar year is \$20 single, \$35 family. Riding members must have current ATRA and AEF memberships.

2020 UPCOMING EVENTS

FAMILY DAY WEEKEND FUN

Monday February 17, Sleigh Ride and Wiener Roast hosted by:

Lucille and Duane Landals out of Onoway.

This will be weather dependent based on snow conditions and temperature. To book your spot please register with Shirley by email: smariem2018@gmail.com

A sign up sheet will be available at the our next general meeting January 16.

Let us hope we can play in the snow this year!



32nd Canadian Birkie Ski Festival

February 8, 2020

At the Blackfoot Recreation area. Organizers will be barrel grooming the north Blackfoot Trail for skate skiers as well as track setting other trails within the park for competitors. The groomed trails will be damaged by horse hoof prints. **ATRA members and other riders are being asked to avoid riding the groomed trails in the month prior to the Birkie event.** Information on the status of the Blackfoot for recreational purposes is on AlbertaParks.ca Under certain conditions staging area access may be closed to different users.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: ATRA will again host a food station at the Birkie International Ski Race Feb 8. ATRA volunteers are needed to help set up the refreshment station, provide support and encouragement to skiers, and have fun outside at a really exciting event. You must be able to dress and stay warm in extreme conditions yet come prepared for nice weather! If you can help please contact Cam Stevenson at 780-910-5889 or cam@syban.net.



ATRA Trail Ride: Sunday January 19, 2020

Blackfoot Waskahegan

Ride out at 11am sharp! Access staging area from RR 210 north of Wye Rd. or South of Hwy 16. Bring a lunch as we will stop half way out on the trail. Please note this is a walking ride with no dogs allowed and no one is in charge of guiding. This is just a way for members to meet up with one another to trail ride. Cancelled if colder than -10°.



2020 UPCOMING EVENTS

| <i>DATE</i> | <i>2020 Clinic Schedule</i> | <i>COST P/PERSON</i> |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <i>Apr 18</i> | <i>Jennifer Woods - Trailer Safety Course - Full Day - Location tba</i> | <i>\$70</i> |
| <i>Apr 23,30 May 7,14</i> | <i>Dustin Grams - 4 week series Horsemanship, Obstacles, Barrel Racing, Flag & Buffalo work - 4 2hr sessions - Rolly View</i> | <i>\$140</i> |
| <i>May 2 - 3</i> | <i>Laverne Schmidt 2-Day Trail Skills & Obstacles - Ono-way</i> | <i>\$120</i> |
| <i>May 5 - Jun 9</i> | <i>Greg Czech - Trail Ready Sessions - Thorsby - Evenings</i> | <i>\$185</i> |
| <i>May 23, 30 Jun 6</i> | <i>Greg Czech - Basic Horsemanship - Cardiff 3 hour sessions - time tba</i> | <i>\$208</i> |
| <i>Jun 12,13,14</i> | <i>Bob Klassen 1-Day Obstacle Course - Courier Park</i> | <i>\$75</i> |
| <i>Jun 20 - 21</i> | <i>Greg Czech - Spring Tune-up & Trail/Mountain Obstacles Prep - Leduc - time tba</i> | <i>\$130</i> |
| <i>Jul 3 - 5</i> | <i>Scott Phillips Liberty Clinic / Progressive Horsemanship. Full Days - East of Rocky Mountain House</i> | <i>\$221</i> |

TO REGISTER FOR A CLINIC:

E-transfer payment along with registration form (available online www.atra.ca or at general meeting) **to:** abtrailriding@gmail.com. Please make your security question 'the club name' security answer/password: ATRA (all Caps)

Or mail cheque and registration form to Cindy Hanas: 25 Linden St South, Spruce Grove, AB, T7X 2G6

Clinic spots are 1st come, 1st served until filled, based on payment received and current ATRA/AEF memberships.

To see if there is space before mailing cheque or sending e-transfer, please call/email Cindy. dich@telus.net or 587-986-1535

Your registration is not confirmed until your payment has cleared and both AEF and ATRA membership have been verified. AEF not required for non-riding clinics. No post-date cheques or spots held without full payment. No refunds after registration deadline unless a vacancy can be filled. We appreciate horses attending are healthy and up to date worming, shots and farrier. Please withdraw if your horse is sick or has been in contact with sick horses within 3 weeks prior to clinic. Waivers are required at most facilities. *spectators are allowed to attend any of the riding clinics at no charge

*no food is provided at any of these clinics unless specified so bring your own lunch

**unless otherwise noted, any clinic not 80% filled by deadline will be cancelled.

EVENT CALENDARS: See details on website: www.atra.ca

| DATE | LOCATION | Details Contact |
|----------------------|---|------------------------|
| Jan 16 | ATRA General Meeting & Open Board Meeting Supper | Maggie/Aly |
| Jan 19 | ATRA Trail Ride - Blackfoot - Waskehegan | Allison |
| Feb 17 | Family Day Sleigh Ride and Wiener Roast - Onoway | Shirley |
| Feb 20 | ***ATRA Annual General Meeting*** | Aly |
| March 19 | ATRA General Meeting - Guest Speaker tba | |
| March 21 | ATRA Trail Ride: Location tba | Allison |
| April 16 | ATRA General Meeting - Guest Speaker tba | |
| April 24 - 26 | Mane Event - Red Deer - ATRA booth in trade fair | Maggie |
| May 9 | Fundraiser Ride - details tba | Cindy/Allison |
| May 15 - 17 | Wierenga Flats - May Long Weekend Campout | tba |
| July 5 - 12 | Hummingbird Mountain Camping Trip & Maintenance | tba |
| July 18 - 26 | Castle Area - Mountain Camping Trip | Lisa |
| Aug 1 - 9 | Yaha Tinda Mountain Camping Trip | Allison |
| Aug 15 - 23 | Sandy McNabb | Lisa |
| Sept 4 - 7 | Drayton Valley Riverside Trails Camping Trip | Cindy |

For insurance purposes, each member joining our rides/clinics is required to hold a current **AB Equestrian Federation** membership. Renewal forms are available: www.albertaequestrian.com

All riders ride at your own risk. We recommend helmet use for all riders & **STRONGLY** encourage it for those under 18 during ATRA events. For the safety of all members, ATRA's policy on riding with dogs is: On single day rides or weekend rides with a large group, no dogs are permitted. On longer overnight trips, dogs may be permitted if all riders in your group are in agreement.



PAST EVENT

**ATRA MEMBERS ENJOYED A DELICIOUS TURKEY
 DINNER AND FUN EVENING AT
 THE ATRA CHRISTMAS SOCIAL EVENT
 DECEMBER 7
 AT THE KIRK UNITED CHURCH CENTRE
 THANKS TO MAGGIE AND TRACY OUR MRS. CLAUS & REINDEER HELPER!
 FOR BRINGING SOME FUN AND LAUGHTER
 TO THE GIFT EXCHANGE**

