



ATRA ON THE TRAIL

January 2018 Newsletter

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

2017 Club Executive

President: Shirley McFall
Vice-Pres: Maggie Portas
Secretary: Allison Downer
Treasurer: Cindy Hanas
Membership: Cindy Hanas
Directors: Marjorie Phillips, Tracy Campbell, Murray Few, Regina Landeck, Doug King, Cam Stevenson, Alexys Mishak, Paige Stocks

*Webmaster: Erin Mohan
Newsletter: Lisa Harrison
 Contact to run an advertisement or send an article to be considered:
lisa_f@mailcan.com 780-237-7587

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.

AGM Thursday January 18 at 7pm Edmonton

The Annual General Meeting is Jan. 18, 2018 at Kirk United Church. Come out to participate in the future of our club. We will be showing a movie on the Panther Trail Development project from 2017, sharing some social time and registering for clinics. If you are interested in being a volunteer with a committee (Clinic, Special Trails, Casino) or on the board, new input is always wanted. Please let a board member know, and see you all on Jan. 18. There will also be a couple representatives coming to answer our questions about the Blackfoot.

ATRA Family Hay Ride on Monday, Feb 19 at 2pm at Birch Bay Ranch, 51505 RR 215, Sherwood Park. Dress warm. We'll have a fire, cocoa and marshmallows. You are welcome to bring a snack to share. Please sign up at a meeting or let Lisa know by Feb 15 if you plan to attend so we know how many rides. 780-237-7587 or lisa_f@mailcan.com



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

Visitors are welcome at any meeting. Website: www.atra.ca

Membership for the calendar year is \$20 single, \$35 family.

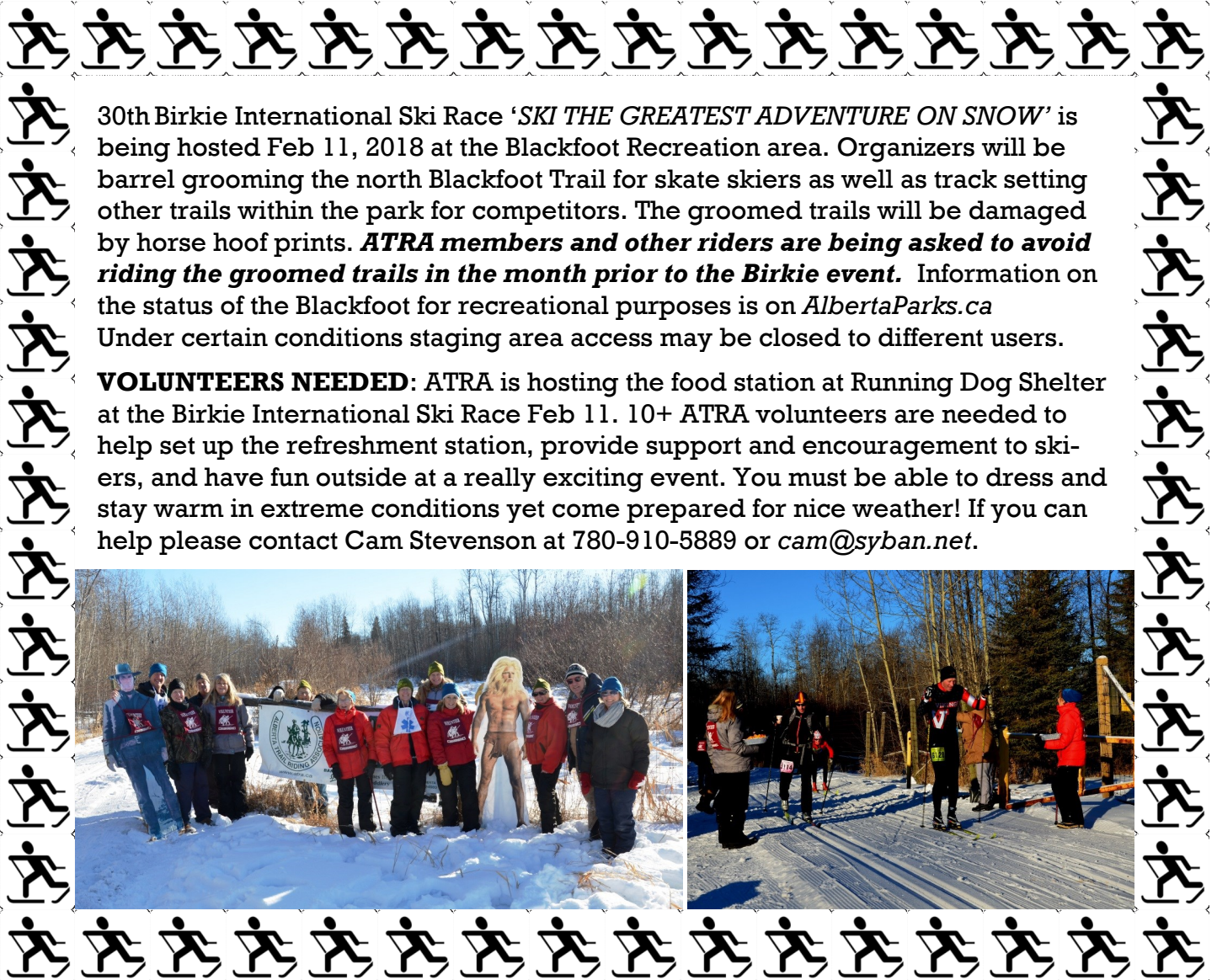
Riding members must have current ATRA and AEF memberships.

Upcoming Events

The ATRA Leather Tooling Workshop scheduled for Feb 3 has been cancelled due to lack of registration by the Dec 1 deadline. If you are interested, Miriam from James Built Saddlery in Tofield has 2 classes coming up in 2018: Jan 20, 9am to 3pm, Beginner Leather Carving class and Feb. 17, 9am to 3pm, Intermediate Leather Carving Class, for those that have taken the Beginner's class. \$195

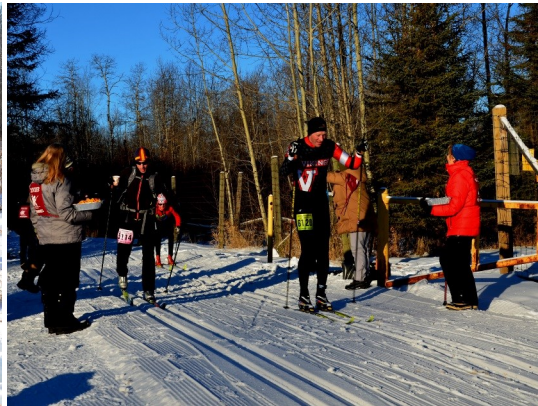

Horse Owners Conference in Sherwood Park for Jan has been post-poned to 2019.

January 21 Sunday ATRA Trail Ride at Blackfoot Central Staging Area. Follow signs from Wye Rd turn North on RR 200. Pack a lunch for the trail. Ride out at 11am. This is a walking trail ride. No dogs, drinking, smoking on the trail. Cancelled if colder than -10.



30th Birkie International Ski Race 'SKI THE GREATEST ADVENTURE ON SNOW' is being hosted Feb 11, 2018 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 is hosting the food station at Running Dog Shelter at the Birkie International Ski Race Feb 11. 10+ 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.



Clinics

The January 19 AGM will be the 1st opportunity to register for 2018 ATRA Clinics so remember your cheque book. If you can't attend, make sure to get your registration forms & cheque to Cindy prior as many clinics fill up at the AGM. Clinic spots will not be held without payment and current ATRA/AEF memberships so make sure these are done ahead. Any overprescribed clinics as of Jan 19 will have draws if additional clinics cannot be added, but after that date will be 1st come, 1st served until filled.

ATRA 2018 Clinic Registration Form

To register, send payment /form to Cindy Hanas, 25 Linden Street South, Spruce Grove, AB, T7X 2G6

Name of Clinic: _____

Location of Clinic: _____

Date of Clinic: _____ Registration Fee: _____

Name of Participant: _____ AEF # _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

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 week prior to clinic. Waivers 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.*

Clinics

April 20-22 Int/Advanced GPS/Mapping Courses at South Cooking Lake Seniors Center

Directions: 102, 22106 South Cooking Lake Road, SE of Edmonton, North of Hwy 14 on RR 221. Max 10 members for each clinic. Registration deadline March 15. Friday \$85, Sat/Sun \$160

COURSE INSTRUCTOR: Dugald Dunlop, B.Sc. After spending 10 years in the mineral exploration industry Dugald has spent the last 24 years applying his training and experience to computer mapping in a broad range of Recreational, Tourism, Forestry, Fish & Wildlife and Natural Resource based applications. He has been using GPS since 1994 and is Resource Inventory Committee certified as a GPS Data Processor/Project Manager. Dugald is currently a partner in the Vernon and Nanaimo B.C. based mapping company Meridian Mapping. The Company offer services in GPS Training, GPS Surveys, Terrain Mapping/Modeling, GIS Projects, Data Mgmt and more.

As a Prerequisite to the Clinics you should have taken the MEC GPS Free Intro Class (GPS Units Supplied). A limited numbers of GPS units will be available for use in this course so owning a GPS unit would helpful but please do not buy a unit for this course. Please contact Doug King by phone (780) 916-7474 (leave a voice mail if no answer) or e-mail at king519@telus.net

Participants should bring their own GPS, manual, spare batteries, compass. For both clinics bring clothing and footwear to spend 2-3 hours in the field. Bring notepaper, highlighter, pens and a bag lunch. 2 Day Clinic Bring your laptop and cable to connect your GPS if you have one.

Friday Intermediate “Using Your Handheld GPS” - GPS/Mapreading/Navigation Intro+: The course is designed to teach GPS basics in terrestrial applications, enabling users to get the most from their unit. The agenda will include basic theory and terminology of the GPS system, and an intro to mapping concepts such as scale, projections, and coordinate systems along with basic compass navigation. Theory will also include GPS field techniques, a review of accuracy expectations and limitations. The agenda will include field exercises to practice GPS techniques. The day will conclude in the classroom with a comparison of the features /capabilities of various brands and models and a demo of available software and data that provide added functionality.

Saturday & Sunday Advanced “Using Your Handheld GPS OziExplorer GPS Software and other Software” GPS/MAPPING SOFTWARE/Navigation INTERMEDIATE: The GPS portion of this clinic will cover all of the topics of the one day clinic and expand on them. The mapping portion will primarily be focused on the OziExplorer Software for mapping purposes, however other Software will be covered such as Garman’s MapSource, PDF/Avenza Maps & Trackmaker. If time permits, how to use Google Earth with respect to waypoints/tracks with also be included.

As a Prerequisite you will have taken both of the MEC GPS and Map/Compass Free Intro Classes (They supply GPS Units), taken the ATRA Friday Clinic the day Prior or be comfortable using a GPS and Navigating by Map. Owning a GPS unit would help you get the most out of this course but please do not buy a unit for this course. Doug King (780) 916-7474 king519@telus.net

The Mountain Equipment Coop in Downtown Edmonton (MEC) has free courses some Saturdays. www.mec.ca
New location: 11904 104 Avenue Edmonton (780) 488-6614



Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue Clinic February 17/18

Dr. Rebecca Gimenez at Paints-Plus Equine Center, 22441 Hwy 14, Sherwood Park

There will be lectures upstairs & hands-on scenarios outside or in arena. Max 50 participants, \$100 for ATRA members. Registration deadline is January 18, 2018.

TLAER is *not* disaster or field medicine. It does *not* refer to salvage/rescue of neglected, starving, abused animals – although many of the techniques *may* be utilized on scenes or in rehab facilities.

TLAER is the practical Considerations, Behavioral Understanding, Specialty Equipment, Techniques, Methodologies and Tactics behind the safe extrication of a live large animal from entrapments (trailer wrecks, ditches, mud, barn fires) in local emergencies and disaster areas.



TLAER offers training for emergency response services, veterinarians, facility operators, animal rescue organizations, large animal transporters, and large animal owners.

Large animals are different – they do not follow rules of physics or chemistry – but instincts of fight or flight under fear and stress. Innovation is often required by rescuers as each incident and rescue operation is different than the last one. **Prevention, Safety and Education** help owners and learn to prevent the common types of incidents, focus can be shifted to the unusual and highly technical ones.

ABOUT THE CLINICIAN: Rebecca Gimenez was born in central Florida and had the wondrous privilege of being able to ride her horses just about as much as she wanted to within a 5 mile radius of her home from the time she was about 12 years old. Occasionally she saw a horse or person get a minor injury - but she remained blissfully unaware of the tragedies between people and large animals that happened all around her. Traumatically separated from horses while she attended college for a BS in Biology at Wofford in Spartanburg, SC when she graduated she purchased her very own appaloosa. She enjoyed her military career in the US Army Reserves, working thru the ranks, eventually getting deployed in 2006 to Kuwait and Iraq, and is currently serving in the Reserves with HQ, US SOUTHCOM in Miami, FL. In 1994 she decided to pursue a graduate degree at Clemson University. Working at a 150 horse student research and teaching farm producing numerous foals each year, she was exposed for the first time to the horrific injuries, disease processes, and realities of emergencies that horses and their people could get themselves into. Over 4 years, she saw just about every worst case scenario that could happen (trapped recumbent, severe laminitis, colicing, death, euthanasia, nasty injuries and lacerations, dystocia, orphaned foals, hung in the fence, killed by lightning, stuck in a trailer) In 1997 Rebecca graduated with a PhD in animal physiology, and began a teaching career in Biology, Immunology and Microbiology at Anderson College.

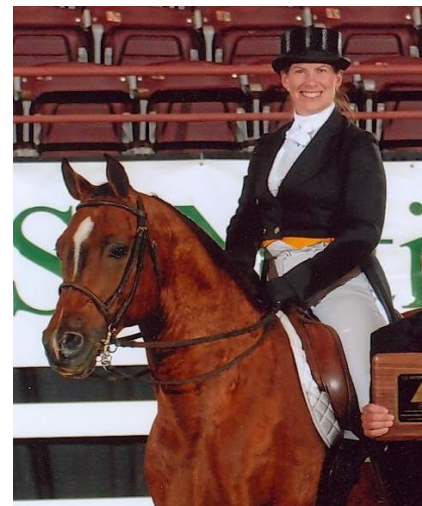
She has continued to gather ideas, techniques and procedures that firefighters and veterinarians all over the world were employing to various levels of success- then showcase the variety of tactics available to students in their courses, and share her knowledge. Rebecca is an active speaker at various venues from international to local, her passion for the subject is impossible to miss. Today, Rebecca happily fills her schedule with speaking engagements, TLAER trainings, and working and playing with her horses on a farm that she purchased in Macon, GA. She has moved the use of mannequin horses into the mainstream - starting to import them to the USA in 2010 and promoting their use worldwide to get better quality realistic training in situations that are very dangerous to emplace live animals (although her trained team of horses still does many demos).



photo: Dr. Rebecca Gimenez

Clinics

Gaited Horsemanship Clinic Sunday, February 4, from 1-4pm with Sandra Sanche at Paints-Plus Equine Center, 1.5 miles East of Hwy 21 on Hwy 14, Sh Park. Exercises for gaited horses to recognize and improve quality of 'middle gait' & canter Cost is \$70/rider, 6 max. Registration deadline is Jan 18. Spectators welcome at no charge. Contact Alexys for info: aly.bat@hotmail.com or 780-938-4707



Small Engine Repair Clinic with Wyes Guys on Sunday March 4, 9am-1pm at Ken Komm's barn (NW corner of Wye Rd on RR 223). They will bring a demo carborator. Bring your own tools as well as anything you want to take apart. Bring your own lunch. Cost \$30. Max 12. Registration deadline is Feb 4. Doug 916-7474 or king519@telus.net

Mountain Readiness Clinic: How to Prepare Horses and Groceries for a Pack or Camping Trip with Sharon & Wally Breitzkreuz and Lucille Landals Sunday, Apr 15, 2-4pm, with a weiner roast after at the Breitzkreuz's: 18025-66 St Edmonston (NE). Exit 43 off Anthony Henday, south to private entrance on East 66 St. Address on sign on fence with red ribbon. Please bring a snack to share. No horse required. We will have a couple horses there to practice putting packs on. Cost is \$30/member. Max 20. Register by March 15. 780-237-7587 lisa_f@mailcan.com

Obstacles & Mountain Readiness Weekend Clinic June 22-24 at Scott Phillips Ranch Hwy 54/RR 40, (36171 – RR 40) about 8km West of Spruce view, ~30km East of Rocky MH. Arrive Friday evening by 7pm and spend the weekend camping in Spruce View. This is on the way to Hummingbird for anyone planning on going to that ATRA trip June 24. Cost is \$160/rider (10 max) includes camping and pen, but no food. Registration deadline is April 19. Info: www.amazinghorsecountry.com or Marjorie: maphill@telus.net or 780-919-6035



Biomechanics, Anatomy, Saddle Fit & Stretching Exercises Clinic with Certified Equine Therapist Jody Shultze on Saturday, Oct 20, 2018 at her place, near Thorsby. We will use her horses for the demos and exercises. Cost \$75, max 15, Register by Sept 20. Contact Marjorie: maphill@telus.net or 780-919-6035 www.brokenspurequinetherapy.com



We have a couple more clinics in the works that will open for registration at the AGM:

- **Craig Wohlgemuth Horsemanship 1 day clinic** in May at Lakedale Arena (contact Cindy)
- **Backcountry Survival Clinic with Bruce Zalwalsky** in June, location TBA (contact Shirley)

4 Week Horsemanship Spring Tune Up Series

We have 5 lesson series in different locations with 4 clinicians in April and May. These are designed for our members to get their horses in shape for the riding season. All breeds/disciplines welcome. Maximum 8 riders. Prices below are for the 4 lessons. Contact names/numbers/emails are below if you have questions.

SHERWOOD PARK — with Katelyn Carter at Paints-Plus (22441 Hwy 14) Wednesdays 10am-12pm April 4, 11, 18, 25. Cost is \$210. Registration deadline is March 1. 780-237-7587 lisa_f@mailcan.com

LEDUC/BEAUMONT—with Dustin Grams at his arena. 23524B Hwy 623, Leduc County. Wednesdays 7-9pm, May 2, 9, 16 & 23. Cost \$120. Reg deadline April 1. 780-237-7587 lisa_f@mailcan.com

Dustin has trained performance horses in various disciplines such as barrel racing, team penning and two man sorting since 1984. A big part of Dustin's business has been riding cutting horse prospects. He also teaches lessons and clinics for different disciplines.

ONOWAY — with Lavern Schmidt Tuesdays 7-9pm May 1, 8, 15, 22 at Sunwest Equine. Directions: www.sunwestequine.com or 780-967-5555 Cost: \$140. Registration deadline April 1. Contact Lisa Harrison 780-237-7587 or lisa_f@mailcan.com.

Lavern has been training horses and coaching students for over 40 years. He is an Equine Canada Level 2 Western Coach. He and his students have competed successfully from Local to International Levels in Trail, Reining, Western Pleasure and Reined Cow Horse. Lavern judges all disciplines. Lavern has served on the board of a number of Equestrian organizations over the years and is currently the Circuit Director of the North Country Circuit & President of the All-Breed Competitive Trail Horse Activities.

MORINVILLE — with Greg Czech 7-9pm Tuesday April 24 and Wednesdays May 2, 9 & 16 at Sturgeon Agriplex Indoor Arena, 2501-Twp Rd 554 (South of Morinville at Cardiff), Cost: \$150. Reg deadline March 15. Sharon B 780-472-6212 rafterbk@telus.net

SW of Edmonton Location TBA — with Greg Czech 7-9pm April. More information will hopefully be available at AGM once a location is found (Thorsby is not available). Anyone with ideas of an arena for rent please contact: Cindy Hanas 587-986-1535 or dich@telus.net



Past Events



Dec 16 **ATRA Christmas Celebration**
About 50 members enjoyed a delicious turkey dinner catered by Sandy View Farms, gift exchange led by Maggie and Tracy and Christmas music and sing along led by Regina and James.



November 16 & 18 Joel Wilkinson, Reg'd Psychologist, Success Coach and Leadership Consultant was our guest speaker for our general meeting at Kirk United Church. On The Saturday he had a workshop at the church with 12 members participating.

November 19 Sunday ATRA Trail Ride at Ministik Bird Sanctuary. We had 2 groups of 6 riders meet at "the diner" for lunch. We built a fire as it was a bit cold without the sun and around freezing temperatures.



Hats Off to Mike Zelenak

Mike is one of those people who often works 'behind the scenes' and doesn't get the thanks he deserves. You may have seen him at past Cancer Rides making your pancakes, eggs and bacon for breakfast. You may have seen him at the Heritage Ranch Rodeo manhandling panels for cattle penning or helping to prepare for the CFR.

It is Mike's association with Northlands that gives the ATRA parade group the most comfort and peace of mind. As coordinator of the equestrian entries for the K Days parade, he pressed me to start bringing our parade group to the downtown

Edmonton parade. Each year he was able to answer questions to clear up any uncertainties from the 15+ pages of the K Days Parade Manual. He knows that we couldn't park at one end of the parade route, get costumed up and then move just the horse trailers to the end of the route before the parade. He knows that horse trailers and animals take up a lot of room and he allots space for us. He funnels all the equestrian entries into their proper parade spots with the ease of a traffic cop.

Mike even recommended ATRA to the 2016 K Days organizers that we would be quite able to fill in at a days notice to carry the flags as the Color Guard and lead the parade. He knew how well behaved our horses were with flags and parades.

With Mike's encouragement ATRA had its largest K Days entry so far. The 2017 K Days Parade Committee collected some sponsorship prizes and Mike was able to nab fuel gift cards for each of the horse trailer drivers to defray fuel costs – a nice way to reward our efforts.

When you see a tall, bearded fellow with a cowboy hat at one of our meetings, please let Mike Zelenak know how much he is appreciated.

Submitted by Vicki Lawrence, Parade Coordinator

Remember as days get colder animals are attracted to the warmth of cars so check wheel arches or other hiding places.



Classifieds

For these items, contact Cindy at 780-962-2690 or chanas@finning.com to bring to a meeting or ride.

Ad Rates	#	Classified	1/4 Page	1/2 Page
Member	1	\$5	\$15	\$30
Member	3	\$12	\$34	\$63
Non-Member	1	\$10	\$20	\$40
Non-Member	3	\$24	\$45	\$84

ATRA Coffee Mug \$15

ATRA Tush Cushions \$10

ATRA Trailer Decal \$10-30

ATRA Jacket \$65



Upcoming Events Calendar

<i>DATE</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>DETAILS</i>
<i>Jan 18</i>	<i>ATRA Annual General Meeting</i>	<i>Page 1</i>
<i>Jan 21</i>	<i>ATRA Trail Ride: Blackfoot Central Staging Area</i>	<i>Page 2</i>
<i>Feb 4</i>	<i>Gaited Horsemanship Clinic with Sandra Sanche—Sh Park</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>Feb 15</i>	<i>ATRA General Meeting: Rebecca Giminez-Horse Rescue</i>	<i>Page 5</i>
<i>Feb 17/18</i>	<i>ATRA Clinic: Rebecca Giminez-Horse Rescue</i>	<i>Page 5</i>
<i>Feb 19</i>	<i>Family Day Hay Ride at Birch Bay Ranch</i>	<i>Page 1</i>
<i>March 4</i>	<i>ATRA Small Engine Repair Clinic at the Komm's barn</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>March 15</i>	<i>ATRA General Meeting</i>	
<i>March 17</i>	<i>ATRA Trail Ride: Location TBA</i>	
<i>April 15</i>	<i>Mountain Readiness Clinic at the Breitzkreuz's</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>April 19</i>	<i>ATRA General Meeting: GPS: Why, How and Where to Use</i>	<i>Page 4</i>
<i>April 20-22</i>	<i>GPS/Mapping Clinics</i>	<i>Page 4</i>
<i>April 27-29</i>	<i>Mane Event in Red Deer: ATRA booth in trade fair</i>	
<i>May 18-21</i>	<i>ATRA Fort Assinaboine Sandhills Camping (new location)</i>	
<i>June 22-24</i>	<i>Scott Phillips Obstacles & Mountain Readiness Clinic</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>Jun 25-Jul 2</i>	<i>Hummingbird Mountain Camping Trip & Maintenance</i>	
<i>July 22-29</i>	<i>Cypress Hills Camping Trip</i>	
<i>Aug 3-12</i>	<i>Yaha Tinda Mountain Camping Trip</i>	
<i>Aug 19-26</i>	<i>Kananaskis Mountain Camping Trip: Little Elbow</i>	
<i>Oct 20</i>	<i>Biomechanics, Anatomy, Saddle Fit & Stretching Clinic</i>	<i>Page 6</i>

If you have an event we should know about, call Lisa @ 780 237-7587 or lisa_f@mailcan.com

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.