



ATRA ON THE TRAIL

February 2018 Newsletter

Inside this issue:

Upcoming Events	1-3
Clinics	3-8
Past Events	9
Classifieds	9
Events List	10

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

2018 Club Executive

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

ATRA Meeting, Potluck, Social, Summer Trail Talk

Join members for a potluck supper on Feb 15 at 6 pm at Kirk United Centre to talk more about summer riding trails. ATRA will provide dessert and refreshments. After the brief business meeting we will show some short clips of some of the ride locations this summer and then have an opportunity to break into groups for further informal/mentoring discussions. This info will help you plan for successful rides locally, in the foothills or mountains. Bring your burning questions! Please BYO plate/cutlery!



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 to book. Call/text 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

Mane Event Expo 2018 is April 27-29 in Red Deer. Website: maneeventexpo.com

The Board is coordinating this major promotional event differently this year by offering to pay 1-4 ATRA members with clinic credits or cash to set up and attend the booth. We need someone to pick up from the ATRA trailer and set up the display items on Thursday (must be set up by a specified time in the evening, usually 8 pm, set up takes about 2 hours) for \$150. It would be preferable if the same person takes down on Sunday as well. We need someone to attend the booth, answer questions and promote ATRA and recreational riding from open until close on Friday and/or Saturday (time is set by the organizers) for \$200 each/day. We need someone to attend and take down the booth and return the items to our storage trailer on Sunday for \$200. A substitute will be organized to provide you with a break. Day passes are included. Transportation, accommodation and food is your responsibility. The Board will make the final decision at the April 2 board meeting on who 'mans' the booth based on the person being an engaged ATRA member who has ridden in a variety of areas and endorses our message of safety/stewardship/mission statement and can 'schmooze' knowledgeably and comfortably with the public. Interested people need to contact Maggie 780-464-0986, maggie.portas@icloud.com by March 31.

Saturday May 12, 40th Annual 'Trail Ride Against Cancer' at Able Ranch, north of Bon Accord. The ride will be a slow pleasure ride of approximately 3-4 hours, **Join in with other riders or head out on your own** through multi-use, natural lands. Riders may arrive on Friday, May 11th and camp overnight in Bruno Neuville's pasture. Start collecting your donations for the Canadian Cancer Society – using the pledge sheet and/or on-line. Prizes will be awarded to the top collectors. A minimum donation of \$50/adult rider (15+) and \$25 for youth rider (14-) is required. After the ride join us for a BBQ (Burgers/Hot Dogs) **at no cost**. For your comfort, bring a chair. Please go to www.atra.ca to download/print your rider package, copies on hand at our general meetings or do feel free to photocopy someone else's forms. The Cancer Ride Committee can always use extra help. For more info or to volunteer, please contact Allison 780-910-4639 or alcarter@telusplanet.net. If you can't make the ride, mail in your pledges or make a donation to someone who is planning to ride. **Non riders may also use the pledge sheet to collect donations and come out to enjoy the day.** We hope to see you there. Don't forget to pack a lunch!



May Long Weekend Camping Trip to Wierenga Pastures, Fort Assiniboine May 18 – 21.

Henry and Marg Wierenga welcome ATRA to their Pastures for our Annual May Long Group Camp and Ride. Facility offers: Water for horses, pumped from fresh water creek on premise to large holding tank. NO POWER or HORSE PENS so you'll need to bring panels or electric fencing or high line rope for high lining between trees or trailers. Another option is to trailer tie. There are three outhouses, fire pit spots, a large gazebo that has an open fire pit in center and drop down sides for the chilly weather. Also available for rent is a couple of cabins/trailers – Reservations will need to be confirmed promptly. Cost is \$30/person for the weekend. Deadline for Registration and Payment is April General Meeting. Directions will be emailed to those signed up. For more details: Allison Downer 780-910-4639 or alcarter@telusplanet.net

MSW Farms Camping Trail Ride June 8-10.

Located on the Battle River near Ponoka. Deposit required by April 19. Cost is \$10/person/night +\$10/horse/night. 3 person cabins are \$65/night or \$150 for 3 nights. Sheilassharko57@gmail.com or 780-686-2534. From Ponoka: 5 miles West on 53, 5 miles North on 795 and 1.5 miles W on 435. From Meniak overpass/ Hwy 2: North 4 miles, West on 265 0.75 miles. mswfarms.com



Sept 28-30 Riverwood Ranch Obstacles, Trail Ride and Cattle Drive www.riverwoodranch.ca

Friday: plan to arrive by noon, set up, then play in extensive obstacle course, cost \$25/horse.

Saturday: Trail ride, minimum two hours, guided can cater to easy for green horses to difficult and longer for seasoned horses and riders. 3,000 acres to ride with Pembina river running through! Guided ride, if over 15 people, then \$100 for wrangler to lead ride to be split up amongst group. Guided in order for insurance to cover riders & horses to be on their property.

Sunday: Cattle drive, starts at 10am, lunch & dinner provided, all day ride, moving several groups of cows, with farm wranglers. We need over 15, in group to get reduction in trail ride fee. \$175 for cattle drive or \$220 if you ride one of their horses. Want folks to let them know well in advance so they can match up horses and riders.



Camping is free for big enough group. Free firewood, and water for horses provided 8 standing pens for horses provided, first come first serve basis. Can use your own panels, or electric fence, or hi-line for rest of horses. Welcome to stay Sunday night and go home Monday, so can enjoy campfire and tell stories around the fire. If you need accommodations, they have 1 cabin with a double bed for \$60/night. 1 outfitter tent with stove --\$50/night. Sleeps 5-6, BYO cots. Sheilassharko57@gmail.com or 780-686-2534 to sign up by Apr 19, deposit required.

Clinics

Parade Readiness Clinic & Costume Allocation on Saturday May 5 at 1pm at Lawrence's outdoor arena (Sunday May 6 is the rain out date). Proposed parades: Ardrossan, Morinville, Sherwood Park, Edmonton K Days. If anyone has any other suggestions please let Vicki know. No cost. Reg deadline Apr 1. Contact: Vicki 780-922-2227 vicki-lawrence@interbaun.com to register as form is not required as no cost.



Clinics

Equine Emergency Rescue Clinic Feb 17/18 with Dr. Rebecca Giminez, from Georgia was cancelled due to low registrations. Many tried to register after the deadline but it was cancelled. Please note that most deadlines are at least 1 month prior the even, so don't miss out again.

Small Engine Repair Clinic with Wyes Guys on Sunday March 4, 9am-2pm at Ken Komm's barn (NW corner of Wye Rd on RR 223—52410). They will bring a demo carburetor. 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

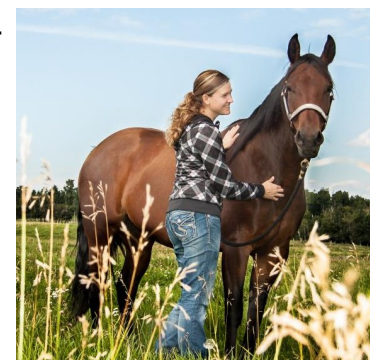
Learn how to tear down, install a kit and reassemble a carburetor and tune up your favorite chainsaw or blower. The course is designed to teach the basics primarily for chainsaws of standard maintenance, trouble shooting and hand sharpening of chains. Standard maintenance and trouble shooting for blowers and string trimmers will also be covered. Ron will also have demo carburetors and will reveal the secrets of tear down, carburetor kit installation and reassembly. Ron's Husqvarna Representative may also be in attendance to lend a hand.

Ron Verdonk, Owner of Wyes Guys Lawn Mowers and Power Equipment. Family owned and operated in Ardrossan since 1996. They offer licenced mechanics to provide prompt and professional repairs for all types of power equipment including ATV's and Snowmobiles in Sh Park & Ardrossan

Mountain Readiness Clinic: How to Prepare Horses and Groceries for a Pack or Camping Trip with Sharon & Wally Breitkreuz and Lucille Landals Sunday, Apr 15, 1-4pm, with a weiner roast after at the Breitkreuz's: 18025-66 St Edmonton (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



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 & 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, Reined Cow Horse. He 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: \$140. Reg deadline March 15. Sharon B 780-472-6212 rafterbk@telus.net

CALMAR — with Greg Czech 7-9pm Wednesdays April 4, 11, 18, 25 at Raindancer Equestrian 26353 - TWP 494—from Hwy 60/Hwy 39 go 1 mile South to TWP 494, turn right and proceed to the first farm on the left/south. Big white gate with horses/carriage on it. Cost: \$120. Reg deadline March 1. Cindy Hanas 587-986-1535 or dich@telus.net



Clinics

April 20-22 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 & Map/Compass Free Classes (GPS Units Supplied). A limited number of GPS units will be available for use in this course so owning a GPS unit would be helpful but please do not buy a unit for this course. Please contact Doug King at (780) 916-7474 (leave a voice mail if no answer) or 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-1 Day "Using Your Handheld GPS" - & Map Reading/Navigation": 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-2Day "Using Your Handheld GPS - & OziExplorer GPS Software/ Garman Software/Waypoint & Track Mgmt/Navigation": 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 Map Source, PDF/Avenza Maps App. If time permits, how to use Google Earth with respect to waypoints/tracks will also be included.

As a Prerequisite you should have taken both of the MEC GPS and Map/Compass Free 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 Ave (780) 488-6614



June 12-13, 2018 Tuesday/Wednesday Wilderness Survival Clinic with Bruce Zalwalsky

DAY 1: 8am to 5pm-Boreal Wilderness Institute - #202 7205 Roper Rd, Edmonton.

DAY 2: 9:30am to 3:30pm -Boreal Forest location TBA - within 1 1/2 hours of Edmonton.

\$120, maximum 14 participants. Registration deadline May 12. Bring a lunch, pen and note pad both days. All other material is supplied and carpooling for day 2 will be arranged on day 1.

For more info: Doug King (780) 916-7474 king519@telus.net

Day 1 - Survival Core Seminar (SCS) is a Realistic Well-Researched Introduction to Modern Wilderness Survival.

Providing the info you need to live comfortably in the Canadian Wilderness in any season. This highly practical survival seminar is for anyone working or travelling in the wilderness. This Course is the basis of the Boreal Wilderness Institute's Wilderness Survival Programme. It is world class training that provides the knowledge and confidence you need .

Practical survival techniques are emphasized along with how to mentally prepare yourself for surviving in the wilderness.

Topics Include; Introduction to Survival, Survival Physiology & Psychology, Clothing & Sleeping Bags, Fire Lighting, Shelter Building, Emergency Signals, Critical Survival Items, Preparing to Survive, & Learning from Others.

Each Participant Receives a copy of Bruce's survival book.

Day 2 - Summer Field Session (SFS) takes you beyond the classroom and into the Boreal Forest. The SFS gives you the chance to practice summer survival skills in relaxed hands-on learning atmosphere. This gives you the chance to practice the wilderness survival skills discussed in the SCS. On this course you will learn the survival techniques necessary to live comfortably in the summer forests of Canada. During the Summer Field Session Fire Lighting practice will be covered and the emphasis will be on **Lighting Fire with Natural Tinder and a Striker**. Numerous skills and survival techniques will be taught. Participants will learn how to build a Cooking Fire, Stick Burners for Cooking and a Summer Survival Shelter.

Bruce's expertise at Teaching Professional Instructor-Led Field Safety Training in Wilderness Survival, Navigation, Wildlife & Bear Awareness Ensures the Best Available Training in Canada. He has over 22 Years experience working as a **Professional Wilderness Survival Instructor**. Bruce guided his first Backpacking Group in the Mountains in 1981. Since then he has developed his skills in leading groups and team building at the University of Alberta, Augustana University College, PADI College, the Nordic Ski Institute, and through over 30 Years of Military Experience. He is a Lifelong Outdoor Enthusiast, completing a 90 day 3600km canoe trip as the highlight of his Outdoor Education training at the U of A. He is the author of **Canadian Wilderness Survival**.



Clinics

ATRA 2018 Clinic Registration Form

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

Or email form information below and payment by e-transfer to **abtrailriding@gmail.com**.

Please make your security question is the Club Name Abbreviated (ATRA)

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

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 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.*

Other Events of Interest

30th Birkie International Ski Race '*SKI THE GREATEST ADVENTURE ON SNOW*' is being hosted Feb 10, 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.

Friends of the Eastern Slopes (FOESA) AGM & Banquet

Saturday, February 17, 2018 at the Royal Canadian Legion, Innisfail, AB

AGM 1pm, Cocktails 5pm, Dinner 6pm, Silent Auction, Raffles, Dance, Entertainment – Tracy Millar, Tickets – Adult Members \$35, Adult Non-Members \$45. 12 & under \$10

Get tickets in advance from Murray Few - 780-289-0039 or 780-434-2000 Website: *foesa.org*

Past Events

January 21 Sunday ATRA Trail Ride at Blackfoot Central Staging Area. If anyone rode, there was no report. Please send pictures and a report for newsletter if you were there.

January 18 the AGM was at Kirk United Church. About 50 members came out and registered for upcoming clinics and voted in the 2018 executive. We would like to welcome Rita Power and Sharon Breitzkreuz to the board and thank those taking a break from the board for their work over the past few years. Also thanks to Erin Mohan who has updated our ATRA website for the past few years. Alexys will be taking over the updates once the new website is launched, hopefully in February. We showed a short video on ATRA's Panther Trail Development project from 2017. Ben Featherstone and Karen Hayduk answered our questions about the Blackfoot.

Call number for on-site coordination of emergency issues at Blackfoot is 1-800-642-3800.

This is a direct line to Report a Poacher which connects you directly to Parks staff.

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

DATE	LOCATION	DETAILS
Feb 4	Gaited Horsemanship Clinic with Sandra Sanche—Sh Park	Jan news
Feb 10	Blackfoot Birkie International Ski Race (date wrong Jan news)	Page 9
Feb 15	ATRA General Meeting: Potluck 6pm—bring plate/cutlery	Page 1
Feb 19	Family Day Hay Ride at Birch Bay Ranch	Page 1
March 4	ATRA Small Engine Repair Clinic at the Komm's barn	Page 4
March 15	ATRA General Meeting—Horseback Riding Vacations	March news
March 17	ATRA Trail Ride: Location TBA	March news
April 15	Mountain Readiness Clinic at the Breitzkreuz's	Page 4
April 19	ATRA General Meeting: GPS: Why, How and Where to Use	Page 6
April 20-22	GPS/Mapping Clinics	Page 6
April 27-29	Mane Event in Red Deer: ATRA booth in trade fair	Page 2
May 5	Parade Readiness Clinic at the Lawrence's	Page 3
May 12	Cancer Ride at Able Ranch, north of Bon Accord	Page 2
May 18-21	ATRA Fort Assinaboine Sandhills (Wierenga Pastures)	Page 2
June 12/13	Wilderness Survival Clinic with Bruce Zalwalsky	Page 7
June 8-10	MSW Farms Camping and Trail Ride—near Ponoka	Page 3
June 22-24	Scott Phillips Obstacles & Mountain Readiness Clinic	Page 4
Jun 25-Jul 2	Hummingbird Mountain Camping Trip & Maintenance	March news
July 16-21	Cadomin Drummond Creek Trail Maintenance	March news
July 22-29	Cypress Hills Camping Trip	March news
Aug 3-12	Yaha Tinda Mountain Camping Trip	March news
Aug 19-26	Kananaskis Mountain Camping Trip: Little Elbow	March news
Sept 7-14	Panther Pack Trip	March news
Sept 28-30	Riverwood Ranch Cattle Drive and Trail Rides, Evansburg	Page 3
Oct 20	Biomechanics, Anatomy, Saddle Fit & Stretching Clinic	Page 4

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.