



# ATRA ON THE TRAIL

## January 2019 Newsletter

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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 at Large:** Doug King, Marjorie Phillips, Tracy Campbell, Murray Few, Cam Stevenson, Rita Power, Sharon Breitkreuz  
 To run an advertisement or send an article to be considered contact: [lisa\\_f@mailcan.com](mailto: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.

### Our AGM is 7pm January 17 at Kirk United Church

We are having a **potluck dessert night** so please bring your favorite dessert to share. We will be socializing, showing pictures/videos from 2018 events 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.



### February 21 General Meeting 7pm Kirk United Church

### "Insights into Equine Body Language"

**ATRA meets 7pm the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month Jan-Apr/Sept-Nov**

**upstairs at Kirk United Centre, 13535-122 Avenue, Edmonton.**

**Visitors are welcome at any meeting. Website: [www.atra.ca](http://www.atra.ca)**

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




























**Riding members must have current ATRA and AEF memberships.**

## Upcoming Events

**NEWS FLASH** - ATRA's Annual General Meeting and Elections are planned for Thursday January 17, 2019 at Kirk United Centre. There will be two Board member vacancies for general members to fill. The Board members have a lot of fun and satisfaction managing the many dimensions of this club. Please let Shirley know if you are interested in more information on a board members responsibilities. 780-662-4747, [smariem2018@gmail.com](mailto:smariem2018@gmail.com)

ATRA has some committees that are also looking to recruit general members to bring in some new ideas. More information will be available with sign up sheets at the AGM. Your input is needed and appreciated.

**January 20 ATRA Trail Ride has been changed to Ministik Bird Sanctuary** (because of Birkie –see below). 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 daily high colder than -10.

																
	<p><b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:</b> Once again ATRA will be hosting a refreshment station at the 31st Canadian Birkie Ski Festival, February 9, 2019 . About 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! By volunteering you'll receive a treasured gift and an invitation to attend the volunteer appreciation night hosted by the Canadian Birkebeiner Society. To participate, please text/call/email Cam Stevenson at 780-910-5889/<a href="mailto:cam@syban.net">cam@syban.net</a>.</p>															
	<p>Organizers will be barrel grooming north Blackfoot trails for skate skiers as well as track setting other trails for competitors. <b>Horse riders are being asked to avoid riding the groomed trails 1 month prior to the event.</b></p>															
																
																
																
																
																

If anyone is planning to ride and wants to invite members to join them, please post on our Alberta Trail Riding Association Members Only facebook group. Email Lisa ([lisa\\_f@mailcan.com](mailto:lisa_f@mailcan.com)) if you need an invite to the facebook group.

If anyone hears of any other Alberta trail rides of interest to the club members, please let any board member know so it can be included in a future newsletter or eblast.

## Upcoming Events

### **Family Day Fun Sleigh Ride** Monday, Feb 18, 1-4pm

Come join other ATRA members for a fun day of traditional winter activities. You will be able to take a sleigh ride around the Landal's beautiful property 55514 RR 20, Lac Ste Anne County, out of Onoway, go for a snowshoe, walk, cross country ski, bird watch – your choice. The horses will be hitched up for rides starting at 1pm. A big fire will be available for you to roast a wiener. Come warm up around the fire, sip on hot chocolate, munch on some goodies and catch up with friends. All food provided by ATRA, just bring your weather appropriate clothes. Your first opportunity to sign up will be at the AGM Jan 17.

Space is limited. This event will be weather dependent and cancelation may occur at the last minute. We suggest you coordinate carpooling for even more fun. Driving time is about 1 hour from central Edmonton. Directions will be provided by email closer to the date to those signed up.



### **Mane Event Expo 2019** April 26-28 in Red Deer. Website: [maneeventexpo.com](http://maneeventexpo.com)

The Board is offering to pay 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, 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. We need members to attend the booth, answer questions and promote ATRA and recreational riding from opening until closing. (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. Day passes are included. Transportation, hotel and food is your responsibility. The Board will make the final decision at the March or April board meeting on who 'mans' the booth. We want members who can be engaging and have ridden in a variety of areas & endorse our safety/stewardship/mission statement and, can 'schmooze' knowledgeably/comfortably with public. If interested, contact Maggie by March 31 780-464-0986, [maggie.portas@icloud.com](mailto:maggie.portas@icloud.com) For more information contact Shirley at [smariem2019@gmail.com](mailto:smariem2019@gmail.com), 780-662-4747.





## 2019 Spring Clinics

*The January 17 AGM will be the first opportunity to register for 2019 ATRA Clinics. If you can't attend, get your forms and payment to Cindy prior to the AGM as many clinics fill up. Spots won't be held without payment & current ATRA/AEF memberships. Any overprescribed clinics as of Jan 17 will have draws or clinics added.*

### ATRA 2019 Clinic Registration Form

**Send payment & form** to Cindy Hanas, 25 Linden Street South, Spruce Grove, AB, T7X 2G6 or email form info below and payment by e-transfer to **abtrailriding@gmail.com**. Please make your security question 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 at [dich@telus.net](mailto:dich@telus.net) or 587-986-1535*

Name , Location, Date of Clinic: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Registration Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Your registration is not confirmed until your payment has cleared & both AEF & ATRA memberships 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. Unless otherwise noted: no charge for spectators at riding clinics, no food is provided so bring your own lunch, and any clinic not 80% filled by deadline will be cancelled.

**Trailer Safety Course with Jennifer Woods on Saturday, March 23** at Graminia Hall 51101 RR 270 (west of Hwy 60). Cost \$40. Register by February 21. This interactive course covers: trailer design, animal behavior & handling, handler safety, biosecurity, horse comfort, accident response, transport/insurance requirements, manifests/permits.

*Jennifer has over 25 years experience in the livestock industry and has worked as a consultant to the industry since 1998. Her areas of expertise include euthanasia, animal handling and behavior, animal welfare auditing and assessing (slaughter, farm, feedlot and transportation), livestock emergency response, transportation, and facility design. Jennifer's work has taken her all over North America, across Europe, South America, and down to Australia.*

## 2019 Spring Clinics

**Saddle Fit Clinic with Certified Equine Therapist Jody Shultze April 13** at Broken Spur Ranch, near Thorsby. This is a 1 day clinic aimed at helping horse owners gain some knowledge about saddle fit as well as giving them some take home tools to utilize with their own horses. There will be both practical portions covering the relevant anatomy, assessment of the horse, saddle and fit and discussion on how fit can be helped. The focus will be on fit for the horse, but will include some aspects of the rider fit. Cost \$90 Register by March 16. Contact Rita: 780-720-4341 or [doodledogs@hotmail.com](mailto:doodledogs@hotmail.com)

**2 Locations: Trail Ready Spring Sessions with Greg Czech at Sturgeon**, max 10 riders Tuesday Apr 23, Wednesday May 1, 8, 15 from 6-9pm Cost: \$130. Reg deadline March 26. Saturday Apr 27—\$85 Register by March 30. Sharon B 780-472-6212 [rafterbk@telus.net](mailto:rafterbk@telus.net) **at Thorsby Haymaker**, max 8 riders. Thursday May 2, 9, 16, 30, June 6, 13 from 7-9pm Cost: \$165. Register by April 4. Contact: Cindy 587-986-1535 [dich@telus.net](mailto:dich@telus.net)

**Greg Czech** of KC Training has done many clinics for ATRA over the years in 5 locations. He raises Tennessee Walkers and works with all breeds and disciplines.

**4 Week Series Horsemanship, Obstacles, Barrel Racing, Flag & Buffalo work with Dustin Grams:** 23524B Hwy 623, Leduc County. Wednesdays May 8, 15, 22, 29. 1-3pm or 7-9pm, Cost \$120. Max 8 riders. Register by April 3. 780-237-7587 [lisa\\_f@mailcan.com](mailto:lisa_f@mailcan.com)

*Dustin has trained performance horses in various disciplines such as barrel racing, team penning and two man sorting since 1984. He taught this series last spring for ATRA also.*

**Lavern Schmidt Two Day Trail Skills and Obstacles Clinic May 25/26 & May 30/31** at Sunwest Equine Services, near Onoway. Campfire/potluck supper Thursday/Saturday night. Overnight camping/pens are available Thurs/Sat nights. They also have some other accommodations if you contact them. You may also haul in each day. Cost is \$120/rider and includes lunch & snacks each day. Register by April 27. Max 10 riders. Map: [www.sunwestequine.com](http://www.sunwestequine.com). Contact Laurie: 780-902-3379 [lpgaboury@gmail.com](mailto:lpgaboury@gmail.com)

*Lavern Schmidt has been training horses and coaching students for over 40 years. They host competitive trail events, shows and clinics,. ATRA had clinics with him 2 years ago.*

**1 Day Obstacle Course** with Bob Klassen on June 14, 15 or 16, 9am–4pm at Courier Park Equine Centre, 21569 Wye Rd (Sec. 630), just east of Laughing Llama on the south side of Wye Rd. Bob has done many of these clinics over the years for ATRA. This is great for every horse and rider, to teach your horse how to confidently deal with many common trail and riding obstacles (max 10 participants each day). Cost \$70 includes wiener roast at end of clinic. Register by May 17. Contact: Doug at 780-916-7474 or [king519@telus.net](mailto:king519@telus.net)

## 2019 Mountain Camping Trips

We are still in the planning stages for overnight camping trail rides this year, so more will be added and dates could be changed. If you have a location you would like to see a ride this year, not listed below, please send to a board member for their next meeting.

**May 17-20 Fort Assinaboine Sandhills—Wierenga Pastures** No shoes, paid camping.

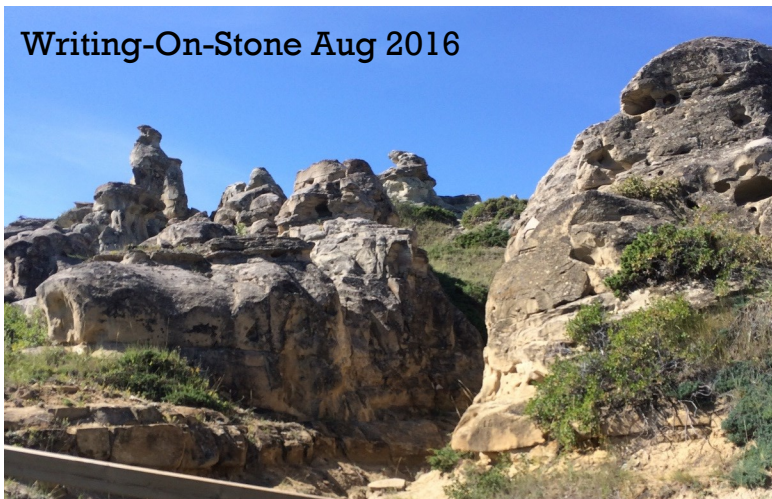
**June 23-July 1 Hummingbird Trail Maintenance Trip** by Ram Falls, west of Rocky Mountain House. Free camping, high line poles, outhouse and creek. Shoes required.

**July 5-8 Writing-On-Stone, Milk River.** I have contacted Les O'Hara to guide us on Saturday & Sunday, as you can't get into this area without him. Shoes are not required. We can arrive Friday evening to camp at the rodeo grounds and leave Monday morning. The fee for camping and the guide will be \$40-80/rider depending on numbers. Deposit of \$40 must be paid to ATRA by April 18. Need 10-20 riders. Contact: Lisa 780-237-7587 or [lisa\\_f@mailcan.com](mailto:lisa_f@mailcan.com) *\*Could another member organize an ATRA ride starting July 8 in Cypress SK (3 hours away) or any other area closer for those wanting a longer trip?*

**Aug 1-11 Yaha Tinda Eagle Creek Campground**, west of Sundre. Free camping, hitching rails or high line poles, outhouse and river. Shoes required.

**August 18-25 Kananaskis Blue Rock**, west of Turner Valley. Covered tie stalls, gravel campground and levelled sites, rocky trails so shoes required. Paid 1st come 1st serve.

Writing-On-Stone Aug 2016



Writing-On-Stone Camping Area





## Past Events

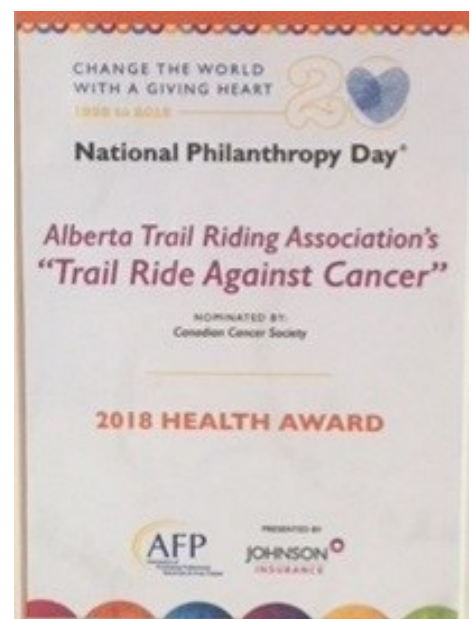
**ATRA Christmas Social Dec 15 at Smileys Sherwood Park**—we had 50 people at the Chinese buffet dinner and gift exchange. Pictures on the right.

**ATRA Trail Ride Nov 18 at Ministik Bird Sanctuary**—no report or pictures submitted but I believe some rode.

**ATRA General Meeting Nov 15** our speaker cancelled due to bad roads but we still had a good turnout of our members and showed pictures from some summer rides & socialized.



Allison and Plemen Downer attended the Philanthropy award & presentation. "Following this year's 40th Cancer Ride event and in recognition of ATRA's outstanding commitment to the Canadian Cancer Society, the Society nominated ATRA for an Association of Fund-raising Professionals (AFP) Generosity of Spirit award. It is my honor to announce that ATRA was chosen as a 2018 recipient. We were congratulated and presented with our award at a celebration event held at the Windspear Centre this past November. Thank you to All who helped to achieve this honor". Submitted by Allison. Pictures are below.



## Past Events

### **Edmonton Grey Cup Parade November 24** — by Vicki Lawrence, Parade Coordinator

Once more, ATRA received an invitation to ride in a prestigious parade. Eight hardy members answered the call and braved cooler temperatures to parade through downtown Edmonton. We, including our horses, sported Eskimo green and gold since our blue and white summer costumes certainly would not keep us warm. Our color choice brought much applause from local fans along the route. Carolyn Wulf, her foot relatively healed after a lengthy injury, carried our banner. Vicki & Dave Lawrence (flag carriers), Allison & Pleman Downer, Laurie & Grace Gaboury and Catherine Seale followed behind. We missed Celina McElroy, a long time flag carrier who was away on holidays. Thank you to those generous folk who donated Eskimo wear for this event.



### **Final Tally for ATRA/CLSC STARS Ride**

The accounting for our 16<sup>th</sup> annual STARS Ride on Sept 23, 2018 can now be put to bed. While only 7 riders braved the cool snowy weather for the ride, the casino fund & ATRA members pitched in big time to bring the donation up to a total of \$2685. Thank you so much for your generosity. Let's hope next year's weather is more cooperative for a good turn-out. Submitted by Vicki Lawrence, STARS Ride Coordinator



## Classifieds

For these items, contact Cindy at 780-962-2690 or [dich@telus.net](mailto:dich@telus.net) to bring to a meeting or ride.

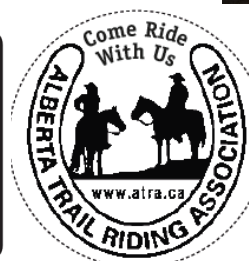
Ad Rates	#	Classified	1/4 Page	1/2 Page
Member	1	\$5	\$15	\$30
Member	3	\$12	\$34	\$63
Non-Member	1	\$10	\$20	\$40
Non-Member	3	\$24	\$45	\$84

**ATRA Coffee Mug \$15**

**ATRA Tush Cushions \$10**

**ATRA Trailer Decal \$10-30**

**ATRA Jacket \$65**



# ASK AND RELEASE

## THE STORY OF BESS:

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INFO/ORDER: [ctozer@telus.net](mailto:ctozer@telus.net) | 780 690 8091  
ATRA members: \$16 (includes mailing) or 2 for \$20

## Upcoming Events Calendar: See details on website: [www.atra.ca](http://www.atra.ca)

DATE	LOCATION
Jan 17	<i>ATRA Annual General Meeting—potluck desserts, elections, pics—Page 1</i>
Jan 20	<i>ATRA Trail Ride—Ministik Bird Sanctuary, ride out 11am — Page 2</i>
Feb 18	<i>ATRA Family Day Sleigh Ride—Page 3</i>
Feb 21	<i>ATRA General Meeting — Linda Finstad — Equine Body Language—Page 1</i>
March 17	<i>ATRA Trail Ride</i>
March 21	<i>ATRA General Meeting—Jennifer Woods—Trailer Safety — Page 4</i>
March 23	<i>Trailer Safety Course with Jennifer Woods at Graminia Hall — Page 4</i>
April 13	<i>Saddle Fit Clinic with Jody Shultze, near Thorsby — Page 5</i>
April 18	<i>ATRA General Meeting</i>
April 20	<i>ATRA Trail Ride</i>

*If you have an event we should know about, call Lisa @ 780 237-7587 or [lisa\\_f@mailcan.com](mailto: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](http://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.*

