



ATRA ON THE TRAIL

March 2017 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 King

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.

General Meeting Thursday March 16 at 7pm in Edmonton at Kirk United Church. After a short business meeting, Dugald Dunlop, B.Sc. will do a talk on what GPS's can do for us when riding and camping in the back country. He will be doing clinics Friday & Sat/Sun. Registration deadline was Feb 17, but if space you may still be able to register. See Feb newsletter for details and page 4 for form.

About the Speaker: 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, etc.



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

ATRA Trail Ride at Blackfoot Waskahegan Sunday March 19. Ride out at 11am, don't be late. Access staging area from RR 210 north of Wye Road 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.

ATRA Trail Ride at Blackfoot Central Sunday April 16. Ride out at 11am, don't be late. Access staging area from RR 200 and Wye Road, follow signs. 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.

If anyone is planning to ride and wants to invite members to join them, please post on our Alberta Trail Riding Association facebook page. Email Lisa (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 Lisa (lisa_f@mailcan.com) know so she can include in a future newsletter or eblast.

Clinics 2017

More clinic information can be found in Jan/Feb newsletter. Please note some clinics have space but others are full and taking waiting lists. **Some dates/times have changed.**

Katelyn Carter Bomb Proofing/Liberty Half Day Clinics March 21 (10-2), 23 (9-1), 24 (9-1).

Katelyn Carter Horsemanship Spring Tune-up 4 week lesson series Wednesdays 12-2pm April 12, 26, May 10 & 24.

Beginner Jumping 12-1:30pm and Intermediate Jumping 2-3:30pm Sunday, Apr 9 with Lisa Harrison. Lesson horses and saddles are available for lease for this clinic. Cost \$30/session.

3 Clinics above are at Paints-Plus Equine Center: 22441 Hwy 14, Sherwood Park. 2.5km east of Hwy 21 on Hwy 14 www.paints-plus.com. contact: Lisa 780-237-7587 or lisa_f@mailcan.com.



Clinics 2017

Greg Czech Spring Tune-up 4 week lesson series Wednesdays 7-9pm Apr 5, 12, 19 & 26 at Thorsby Haymaker Arena. Contact: Cindy 780-962-2690, 587-986-1535 chanas@finning.com

Greg Czech Training 4 lesson series Tuesdays April 25, May 2, 9 & 16 7-9pm at Sturgeon Agriplex Indoor Arena. Contact: Sharon Breitkreuz 780-472-6212 rafterbk@telus.net.

Spring Tune Up Clinic with Greg Czech Saturday, April 22 at Sturgeon 9-4. Contact: Sharon



Lavern Schmidt Two Day Horsemanship/Trail Skills Clinic May 4/5 or 6/7 at Sunwest Equine Services, near Oneway. Campfire and potluck supper Thursday or Sat 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. 10 people per clinic. Cost is \$120/rider & includes lunch. Reg deadline is April 4. Directions: www.sunwestequine.com.



Parade Readiness Clinic & Costume Allocation on Saturday June 3 at 1pm at Lawrence's outdoor arena. Proposed parades: Ardrossan - Sat June 17, Morinville - Sat June 24, Sherwood Park - Sat July 1, Edmonton K Days - Fri July 21. No cost. Reg deadline May 1. Contact: Vicki 780-922-2227 vickilawrence@interbaun.com



1 Day Obstacle Event training Friday, June 23, Saturday June 24 or Sunday June 25, 9 – 4pm — Courier Park Equine Centre, 21569 Wye Rd (Sec. 630), just east of Laughing Llama on the south side of Wye Rd. Clinic is for every horse and rider, to teach your horse how to confidently deal with many common trail & riding obstacles (max. 10 participants each day). Cost \$60 includes wiener roast at end of clinic. Reg deadline April 30. Contact: Doug King, 780-922-3812, king519@telus.net



Square Dancing on Horseback 3 week series with Murray Few Wednesday June 14, 21, 28 6:30-8:30pm at the Riddell Arena, 22224 Twp Rd 510 Sherwood Park. This event is for those who would like a new challenge to enhance their riding experience. You and your horse must be able to turn, accelerate and stop quickly when cued. Also you must be able to ride with others in a co-ordinated way. Cost \$70. Minimum/maximum 8 participants. Registration deadline May 7. Contact: Murray Few 780-434-2000 or mbfew@planet.eon.net



Clinics 2017

ATRA 2017 Clinic Registration Form

Name of Clinic: _____ Date of Clinic: _____

Location of Clinic: _____ Registration Fee: _____

Name of Participant: _____ AEF # _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

To register for any 2017 clinic, send payment and form to Cindy Hanas, 25 Linden Street South , Spruce Grove, AB, T7X 2G6. Your registration is not confirmed until your payment has cleared and both AEF and ATRA membership have been verified. 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 these clinics at no charge, no food is provided at any of these clinics, except hot dog potluck at obstacle clinic at Courier Park. Unless otherwise noted, any clinic not 80% filled by deadline will be cancelled.

Don't Squat on Your Spurs & Other Pearls of Wisdom! — Will Rogers, who died in a 1935 plane crash, was one of the greatest political sages the US has ever known.

Some of his sayings:

1. Never slap a man who's chewing tobacco.
2. Never kick a cow chip on a hot day.
3. There are two theories to arguing with a woman. Neither works.
4. Never miss a good chance to shut up.
5. Always drink upstream from the herd.
6. If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging.
7. The quickest way to double your money is to fold it and put it back into your pocket.
8. There are three kinds of men: The one that learns by reading, the few who learn by observation, the rest of them have to pee on the electric fence and find out for themselves.
9. Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.
10. If you're ridin' ahead of the herd take a look back every now & then to make sure it's there.
11. Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier'n puttin' it back.
12. After eating an entire bull, a mountain lion felt so good he started roaring. He kept it up until a hunter came along and shot him. The moral: When you're full of bull, keep your mouth shut.

Premise ID Number—do you need one?

You may call your animal a pet or a backyard hobby, but if it is also livestock you must have a Premises Identification Number (PID) from Alberta Agriculture and Forestry.

From backyard chickens and bees to horses, quail, yaks and pheasants, the owners of livestock and poultry across Alberta are being reminded that they are required to register for a mandatory PID Account and Number with the province. It's free, simple to apply for and in an emergency – such as a fire, flood or disease outbreak -- your family of animals, birds and bees will be known to emergency responders.

If you board your pet elsewhere – like a horse at a boarding stable – you need to know the PID Number for where it is located.

The PID system is designed to help the owners of animals when disasters strike and is an important part of animal health and safety for everyone. Traceability information includes PID and this up-to-date and accurate information is critical to emergency response.

Owners of animals, birds and bees have benefited from the PID system in several natural disasters in the last couple of years. The size of your herd, flock or hives doesn't matter, nor does the number of acres you have them on, all owners and their premises need to be registered.

For more information on PID and Alberta's Traceability system, call the Ag-Info Centre at 310-FARM (3276) or visit the Alberta Agriculture website www.agric.gov.ab.ca to register online or download the forms.

To find a traceability services location nearest you – go to Traceability Connects.

Contact: Alberta Ag-Info Centre 310-FARM (3276)

Animals to be registered in PID include the following in captivity: alpacas, asses, beef cattle, bees, bison, cervids, dairy cattle, donkeys, doves, ducks, fish, fur-bearing animals, geese, goats, guinea fowl, horses, llamas, mules, peafowl, pheasants, pigeons, poultry, quail, rabbits (meat), ratites (large flightless birds such as Emu/Ostrich), sheep, swine, wild boars, yaks

ABOUT GROWING OLDER

First ~ Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

Second ~ The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

Third ~ Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me; I want people to know 'why' I look this way. I've traveled a long way, and some of the roads weren't paved.

Fourth ~ When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to youth, think of Algebra.

Fifth ~ You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

Sixth ~ I don't know how I got over the hill without getting to the top.

Seventh ~ One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it's such a nice change from being young.

Eighth ~ One must wait until evening to see how splendid the day has been.

Ninth ~ Being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.

Tenth ~ Long ago, when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today it's called golf.

Overnight Camping Rides 2017

These trips are for ATRA members, with their own horse, trailer & camping accommodations. Horses and riders should have trail riding experience and be fit enough for 4-8 hour day rides. We recommend all horses have 4 shoes prior to coming, as there is lots of rock on the trails. If you are using boots instead, make sure you fit and practice with them ahead. Make sure your horse can handle saddle bags, rain slickers, creeks, mud, bogs, dogs and wildlife. Also make sure your truck has enough power and trailer has working brakes for the steep hills. Trails in these areas range from easy flat valley rides to high steep mountainous areas. There are many beautiful trails, some hard to find and not well marked, so if you haven't been there before, this is a great opportunity to come with the group, who can show you the trails. We tend to split up and ride out in various smaller groups to different destinations. Unless noted, there is no limit on number of members that can attend. We do ask that you **REGISTER** with contact or sign up at a spring meeting so we know you are coming and can send additional information on group activities, meals travel and directions to destinations. The ATRA banner will be displayed at our campsite. Unless noted, most campgrounds are free and have no water, RV hook-ups or power. There is no cell phone service at any campgrounds. BYO cubes preferably, as hay can introduce weeds to the area. At free campgrounds, facilities include outhouses (BYO TP), high-line poles (BYO rope). You can tie or panel beside your trailer. No electric fences or grazing.

What to Bring for your Horse for overnight rides: saddle, cinch, saddle bags, breastplate and crouper, 2 saddle pads, grooming kit, horse first aid supplies, halters & long lead shanks, high line rope, rain sheet/blanket (it gets cold at night & horses can't move much to keep warm), feed tub, water bucket, helmet (optional, but ATRA recommends), horse fly spray, sponge, scraper and small bucket, manure tubs and forks or shovels to take manure to pit, hobbles (optional for lunch grazing only), easy boot (in case you lose a shoe – note most horses need a size bigger than shoe size), tag with phone # on halter (in case you lose your horse)

What to Bring for you for overnight rides (suggestions): personal clothing and toiletries, TP, bug spray, first aid kit, medicine, binoculars, camera, batteries, rain gear, winter jacket, chair, flashlight, garbage bags to haul out garbage, multi-tool, bell or whistle, bear spray, duct tape, compass or GPS, folding saw, pocket knife, axe, sewing kit, tarp, cooking supplies and food and drinks, lunch kit, generator. Medical information card that has name, next of kin & phone # & relationship to, location of truck/trailer keys, AHC#, medications, allergies, medical conditions or any health concerns (ATRA has these so ask trail ride organizer on the day you arrive)

May Long Weekend Camping Trip to Horse Creek Ranch, Fort Assiniboine May 19-21 — www.horsecreekranch.ca
Cabins & horse pens are booked. To go on waiting list, contact Barb 780-434-2000 or mbfew@planet.eon.net. Cost is: \$25.20/person/horse/rig/dog/power site for weekend—chq payable to CLSC by May 1. Give cheque to Barb.



Overnight Camping Rides 2017

MSW Farms Camping Trail Ride June 9-11, 2017. Located on the Battle River near Ponoka. Deposit required by April 20. Cost is \$10/person/night and \$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



June 18-23 Hummingbird Maintenance Mountain Camping. The equestrian campground is 100km SW of Rocky Mountain House. Take Hwy 752 (60km, 40 paved/20 gravel), south west of Rocky to the Forestry Trunk Road 734, turn right (west) at that T-intersection (41km to camp). After crossing the South Ram River-steep hill, the road turns west for a mile or so then goes north. Look for the Hummingbird sign on the west side. Turn left & follow the road to the staging area. Continue on the road past the information signs in the first parking lot (day use area). The road climbs a short hill then makes a sharp u turn across a small creek then continues west. The equestrian loop camping area has a sign and an entrance, on the left (south). Ken Z will be staying at the campground and doing day rides and likely one campground cleanup day. Please plan to help with picking up garbage and clearing trails if you come on this trip. Fuel costs may be partially reimbursed to those that submit receipts to Shirley by the September meeting. A creek crossing is required to access trails. Ken Zelt 780-922-3222 or kawlzelt@gmail.com



July 17-24 East Drummond Creek Trail Relocation at Whitehorse Creek Campground 60km South of Hinton. 4km West of Hinton turn South on Hwy 40 for about 50km. Turn right at T and its 5km past Cadomin. Ken Z has reserved all the equestrian sites so you must sign up with him to get a site. They cost \$11/night + \$2/horse/night. Sites have tie stalls or box stalls (not covered so bring rain sheets or tarps/bungies) and bring manure forks and muck buckets. Outhouses and firewood are provided, no hookups. The group will be clearing the overgrown Drummond Creek trail. Ken will use the trail clearing criteria to choose crew from the sign up list based on required skills. Members not involved in the trail clearing are invited to come, ride the area and socialize around the campfire if extra campsites are available. Those volunteering may be partially reimbursed for fuel costs if they submit receipts to Shirley by the September meeting. Ken Zelt 780-922-3222 or kawlzelt@gmail.com



Overnight Camping Rides 2017 continued...

July 23-30 Panther wilderness trail development ride This trip is a working/riding week into the isolated non-motorized Panther area SW of Sundre. This ride is oversubscribed, if you are interested in being on the cancellation list contact Shirley, 780-662-4747 or shimcf@mcnet.ca

Aug 5-13 Yaha Tinda Eagle Creek Campground — 85km SW of Sundre. Directions: 10km west of Sundre turn left/south on Coal Camp Rd, after 50km (25 km paved/25 km gravel) turn left at T-intersection Hwy 734, stay on the north side of the river (do not cross blue bridge, go past no exit sign at bridge, but do not take the 2nd no exit sign to the right) it's 25 km to the Eagle Creek Campground, look for campground sign on your left, YMCA will be on right. FOESA also has their fundraiser poker ride at Bighorn Campground August 6 - ride or volunteer. Contact Allison Downer for more info: alcarter@telusplanet.net 780-910-4639



Aug 18-21—Ride at Cowley's Rafter Six Ranch with Kateri, Kananaskis—www.raftersix.com
More details will be sent to those signed up by April 20, as a deposit will be required. Camping fee **\$25/night + \$10/horse**. Group will also have to split the cost of the guide for Saturday and Sunday rides 4-6 hours each at \$50/hour. Horses available for rent at \$40/hour. Shoes required. No hookups. Water for horses only at corrals. Accommodations nearby - 5 minutes from Stoney Nakoda Casino, & 15 mins from Copperstone Resort at DeadMan's Flats. Many from this ride will continue to Mesa Butte (below) for the week. lisa_f@mailcan.com or 780-237-7587

Aug 20-27 Mesa Butte, Kananaskis Campground — ~20 km West of Millarville along SH 549. Take Hwy 22 south of Calgary to Millarville. This equestrian campground has 15 sites and 32 covered tie stalls with easy access water and manure bin by stalls. No power. Bring 2-3 bags of shavings/horse and fork to clean stalls. Cost is \$33/night per site including 2 horses, \$7/night/additional horse. No reservations – that's why we're going Sunday. Contact: Lisa Harrison lisa_f@mailcan.com or 780-237-7587



Sept 1-4 (Long Weekend) Drayton Valley Riverside Trails. Come ride along the Pembina River. No shoes required. Great training area with Bridges and river crossing. Trail loops vary from 2 hours to 8 hour loops. Camping at a first come basis. Some sites have tie stall, box stalls or hitching rails. Contact Cindy at 587-986-1535 or chanas@finning.com

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



2004 TOYOTA MATRIX, 212,000 km, base model with minimal electronics, 7-8 km/100 l (approx. 33 mpg) Block heater, winter & summer tires, Gold & Black Book price up to \$5200. \$4000 obo

2006 F350 CREW CAB DULLY TRUCK, 235,000 KM, tow package, camper tie-downs, heated seats, big front bumper w/driving lights, 5th wheel rails. \$12000 obo

1999 Honda 450-s QUAD: winch, windshield, runs great (used on farm for fencing) \$3000 obo

Carl Hoybak or Shirley McFall, Tofield shimcf@mcnet.ca Hm: 780 662-4747 Cell: 780 918-9481

Past Events

General Meeting Thursday February 16. After a short business meeting, Jenn McCarty did an informative presentation on what to be prepared for when trail or mountain riding. Anyone interested in Equine First Aid, she is running a course March 11/12. Cost is \$299. ATRA will also be looking into hosting a course in the fall.

29th Birkie International Ski Race was hosted Feb 11, 2017 at the Blackfoot Recreation area. Some ATRA members volunteered and snow conditions were the best they have had in years.

ATRA Family Day Hay Ride at Birch Bay Ranch. Great weather and a great turnout of almost 70 people. We had 3 groups go for about half an hour each while the rest visited around the campfire and roasted marshmallows.



Upcoming Events Calendar

DATE	LOCATION	DETAILS
March 16	ATRA Meeting 7pm — An introduction to GPS	Page 1 & Feb
March 19	ATRA Trail Ride at Blackfoot Waskahegan—ride out at 11am	Page 2
Mar 21-24	Bombproofing/Liberty Clinic with Katelyn Carter- Sh Pk	Page 2
Apr 5	Greg Czech 4 week lesson series start in Thorsby	Page 3
Apr 9	Beginner & Intermediate Jumping Clinic in Sherwood Park	Page 2
Apr 12	Katelyn Carter 4 week lesson series start in Sherwood Park	Page 2
April 16	ATRA Trail Ride at Blackfoot Central —ride out at 11am	
April 20	ATRA Meeting 7pm — Equine Assisted Therapy-Gary Millar	
Apr 21-23	Mane Event Horse Expo—Red Deer—booth volunteers needed	Barb 434-2000
Apr 22	Greg Czech Clinic in Sturgeon/Cardiff	Page 3
Apr 25	Greg Czech 4 week lesson series start in Sturgeon/Cardiff	Page 3
May 4/5	Lavern Schmidt Horsemanship/Trail Skills Clinic—Onoway	Page 3
May 6/7	Lavern Schmidt Horsemanship/Trail Skills Clinic—Onoway	Page 3
May 19-21	Horse Creek Ranch May Long Weekend ride	Page 6
May 27	Cancer Ride at Able Ranch (note date changed)	
June 3	Parade Readiness Clinic (note date changed)	Page 3
June 14	Square Dance 3 week practice series start in Sherwood Park	Page 3
June 9-11	MSW ranch ride and campout (note date changed)	Page 7
June 18-23	Hummingbird trail maintenance ride	Page 7
June 23-25	1 day Obstacle clinics at Courier Park	Page 3
July 16-21	Cadomin — East Drummond Creek Trail Relocation	Page 7
Jul 21	K Days - participate in parade	
July 23-30	Panther wilderness trail development ride	Page 8
Aug 5-13	Ya Ha Tinda Mountain Camping Trail Ride	Page 8
Aug 12	FOESA Poker Rally at Ya Ha - volunteers & riders needed	
Aug 18-21	Cowley's Rafter Six Ranch ride with Kateri	Page 8
Aug 20-27	Kananaskis Mesa Butte Mountain Camping Trail Ride	Page 8
Sept 1-4	Drayton Valley ride and campout	Page 8

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.