Warmest Welcome, Miss Lauren!

ATRC would like to send a warm welcome to our new Volunteer Coordinator and Junior Instructor, Lauren Longtoe!

Lauren graduated from Marist College in 2018 with a B.A. in Psychology and a minor in Business. She currently studies Therapeutic Horsemanship at SUNY Cobleskill and will receive her PATH Intl. Therapeutic Riding Instructor certification May 2020. After this, she hopes to pursue a PsyD in Clinical Psychology and continue with Equine Assisted Therapy. She has also completed PATH’s Equine Specialist in Mental Health and Learning (ESMHL) workshop to broaden her skills in this field. Lauren rides for SUNY Cobleskill’s IHSA Western team, but also enjoys riding English and working on her unmounted horsemanship skills. From intern to staff member, Lauren will continue to teach a variety of lessons alongside Miss Taylor, recruit, train, and schedule new and existing volunteers, and participate in community outreach, fundraising, and farm maintenance.
Volunteer of the Month: Mindy Greg Scott

According to the staff at ATRC, Mindy is a “fantastic addition to the volunteer program. She is dedicated and very consistent, motivated, and has plenty of new and fun ideas for program development.” To get to know Mindy a little better, we asked her a few questions:

Why do you volunteer at the ATRC?
I could have volunteered at any stable in the capital district to get me some “horse time” but I wanted to serve a greater purpose. Because my shift is p.m. feeding, I don’t get to spend much time watching lessons or seeing our riders bond with the horses and the cats but I know that I am supporting the great work of Taylor and Lauren, allowing them to focus on lesson plans and the unique needs of our horses. And that makes me feel good.

When you’re not at the ATRC, what do you like to do?
I spend my precious free time doing yoga or golfing with friends and spending any time I can with my two grown sons, my husband and my dog and cat, Stella and Chance. If there is time to spare, I tend to my neglected flower gardens. In the winter, I like to snowboard and do more yoga.

If you won a million dollars, what would you do with it?
Easy question - I would buy a horse. I’ve never owned one myself but I’ve leased them and taken them on as 4H projects when I was young. I started riding when I was 7 or 8 years old. Joined the Sudbury (MA) Brush and Bridle 4H Club for several years and learned a lot about horses and so much more. I rode through high school competing in all sorts of shows but never loved competition. I just liked being around horses. In college I got to ride for credit! Then over the years, growing my family and my profession, I always returned to horses - either taking a random lesson or trail ride - when things got stressful or when I found a moment of free time. So, yes, a horse for sure. However, I would not buy a $1 million horse so with the rest I would buy a tiny house on the ocean and donate a big chunk to ATRC.

If you could meet your hero, who would it be and why?
Well I already met her and knew her for 17 years. She was my grandmother, Marnie. She is my hero because she was a single mother of three girls in the 1940s who had already lost her own mother when she was a very young girl. Her fortitude, perseverance and dedication to her family has always been an inspiration to me. She along with everyone who has had to deal with trauma or adversity and rises above and beyond it to make their family, community, or the world a better place is my hero. I’d love to see Marnie again of course and fill her in on everything and thank her.

What is your favorite part about volunteering with the ATRC?
My favorite part about volunteering at ATRC is the horses. It’s therapeutic for me just being around them, feeding them, giving them hugs and snapping their pictures. They are what drew me to ATRC and very quickly I realized what an amazing group of people operate the Center. Taylor and Rebecca and now Lauren make it so easy to be a volunteer. In return I try to be as reliable and consistent as possible so they can count on me and spend their time serving our riders.

Meet the Staff: Taylor

Taylor Huntley is ATRC Inc.’s as Program Director/ Barn Manager/ PATH Intl. Riding Instructor. Taylor is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of Wilson College with a Bachelor of Science in Equine Facilitated Therapeutics and a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management.

Certified by the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.) and the Council for Education and Certification in Therapeutic Horsemanship (CECTH), she has taught both English and Western riding lessons as well as therapeutic riding lessons. Taylor has experience in Dressage and Natural Horsemanship, competed IHSA in college, and has coached an IEA team. Taylor and her horse, Montana, started their new chapter at Albany Therapeutic Riding Center in July 2018.

Upcoming Fun!

Come see us at the Apple and Wine Festival at the Altamont Fair Grounds Sept. 14th and 15th! ATRC will have a table, stop by and say hello!

ATRC will be hosting a fundraising event at Indian Ladder Farms from 6-8PM on 9/14! More details to come!

We are looking for item or basket donations for a Silent Auction or raffle for the event. Please contact Allie at agleton2597@gmail.com if you are interested in donating!

We would like to send a warm welcome out to our new Board Members! Mindy Scott, Carol Hartford, Katlyn Curtin, and Allison Gleaton were voted in to our Board of Directors 8/20 by existing members. We are excited to see where this new chapter will take us!

Paige Casey and family sponsored Montana again for the month of August for our Adopt-A-Horse program!

Reach out to Miss Taylor if you would like to participate!
JANE & TANNER

Meet our new additions, Jane and Tanner!

Jane (top left) and Tanner (bottom left) joined our lesson horse herd Thursday, August 8th! They have been settling in very well and have been started into lessons!

Jane and Tanner are both Spotted Draft Horses, Jane was graciously donated to our program by Terri and Dave Hendrickson and Tanner was donated to the program by Dana Hendrickson. Thank you so much for making this happen, and thanks to all of those who have shared our posts and helped us find the perfect fit(s)! We are so excited about these two, and look forward to seeing their journey within our program!
Thank You

ALBANY MEDICAL COLLEGE

Albany Medical College's Service Learning Program hosted a service day at ATRC as part of their orientation week for First Year Medical students!

Around 15 students came out to the farm mid-day Saturday, August 10th to help us give the barns a fresh coat of paint! Thank you for your generosity of donating paint and supplies, as well as considering us as one of 12 sites for your service day!

Photo Fun

Elsa and Melissa sharing a special moment

Jenna and Elsa practicing their "ground tying"

Rachael and Montana stopping for a photo op!