



ATRC: OF THE MONTH

The monthly newsletter for our families, followers, and supporters of the Albany Therapeutic Riding Center.



WE ARE MOVING!

ATRC is very grateful for the opportunity we had to reside at our Bullock Rd facility over the last year, but with the new year comes some change! ATRC will be moving to a TEMPORARY location, **White Birch Stables at 59 Blanchard Road, Gansevoort NY**. The horses will be moving at the end of December and will be taking a few weeks to acclimate before lessons begin again. This location hosts 24 stalls, a large indoor arena, heated viewing room, outdoor arena, large tack room, and more! We will be able to hold lessons at this facility so we will be able to hit the ground running in 2021. The DeRidder family has been super kind and accepting of our program and we cannot wait to start working with them. We say temporary because...

A VERY generous donor has offered to help ATRC finance the purchase of a forever home for our program!! We are actively searching right now to find the most perfect property for our program to help meet our operational needs. We are looking anywhere from turnkey properties to vacant land to build the facility of our dreams, and we cannot be more excited!! We will be launching our Raise the Barn (name TBD) Capital Campaign to help ATRC make this dream come true. We are so excited about this next step in our journey and are ready to plant some roots for our organization in the Capital Region!

THIS DECEMBER AT THE FARM:



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VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH: HAVEN BATTLES AND DEVON BLACKWOOD



This month we want to recognize Haven and Devon as our volunteers of the month! They're super dependable and always willing to help out however they can! We are so thankful to have them at the barn with us! To get to know them a little better, we asked them a few questions:



1. What is your favorite part about volunteering at ATRC?

Haven and Devon: Getting to spend time with the horses and riders.

2. When you're not at ATRC what do you like to do?

D: I like to play music (piano, ukulele and singing), I like to perform with my a cappella group, hang out with friends and play ultimate frisbee (when we're not in a pandemic).

H: I work at the state health department so this has been a busy year! Volunteering at ATRC has been my main distraction from that. I also like to spend time with my three kids and go for hikes with our dog, Nacho. When the world allows it, I like to go out to dinner and see live music with friends.

3. If you won a million dollars, what would you do with it?

D: I'd save up for a car and donate to charities like those working with foster kids, Native American land conservancy, Black Lives Matter and the environment.

H: I'd put my kids through college, take a family vacation to some natural beauty and donate a bunch to charity (ATRC is at the top of the list!).

4. Why do you volunteer at ATRC?

D: I like to help people and I like being with animals so this seemed like a great opportunity to do both!

H: Despite not growing up around horses, I've always had a fascination. Most of my career has focused on helping children with medical illnesses and their families. Therapeutic riding always seemed like such a great option for families and I'm excited to finally be a part of it.

Updates



- Our fees are increasing slightly: Due to the increase in rider interest and decrease in time slots available, we created a differential between the half hour lesson price and the hour lesson price. Hour long lessons are changing to \$45/ lesson so \$270 for a 6 week session and half hour lessons are remaining at \$30/ lesson or \$180 for a session
- We will be offering themed group classes! Lauren and Taylor will be putting together group classes scheduled at certain times throughout the week. Classes will include groups such as Walk/Trot group, Horsemanship 101, Horse Care and First Aid, Intro to Cantering, Intro to Jumping, Western Gaming, etc. We are still working on establishing group types, times, curriculum, and requirements to enter each group. If this is something you are interested in, please reach out!

Meet the Board: Dr. Carlin Jones

Dr. Carlin Jones began begging for riding lessons at the age of seven. Her parents gave in six months later, in November, in Minnesota, and she was hooked. As a military family, the Jones's moved often but pets and horses remained constants. Becoming a member of the United States Pony Clubs allowed Carlin to follow her passion across several states, landing in Maine in high school. Carlin competed in 4 national championship rallies as she worked toward her HA rating. Pony Club's focus on management and health care sparked an interest in keeping horses at their best, and at age 14 Carlin set her sights on becoming and equine veterinarian. While working towards her bachelor's in biology at Lake Erie College she was introduced to equine reproduction. Following a pregnancy from insemination to birth inspired her and it became evident that equine reproduction would be an area of intense professional interest. As a veterinary student at the University of Pennsylvania, Carlin spent summers working with reproduction experts; both equine and companion animal. Carlin now splits her professional time between general and preventative care and equine reproduction. Maintaining her first horse Dotty through her 30's created a special interest in keeping geriatric horses feeling their best, this includes dentistry, managing endocrine disorders like Cushing's disease and insulin resistance, and nutrition.





1st Annual Winter Exhibition



Thank you so much to everyone who came out to ride and volunteer at our first ever Winter Exhibition! We were able to raise just over \$6,000 and could not have done so without all of our riders, volunteers, sponsors and donors! We were so excited to provide this opportunities to our participants, a little bit of "normal", after this crazy year. Thankful to all of those who made it happen!



Happy Holidays!

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday from our herd to yours! We can't wait to see everyone again in January when we start lessons back up! If you would like to support our herd in the meantime, check out our Amazon Wishlist to see what presents the horses are asking for this holiday season!

https://smile.amazon.com/hz/charitylist/lr/2J0WI2SZMRC9N/ref=smi_ext_lnk_lcl_cl

Jane



Montana



Elsa



Luke



Tanner

