



(L - R) Kate Boggan - AHPF Director of Marketing & Communications with her OTTB mare Dashing Vixen,  
Chad E. Crumbaker - ATC VP Academic & Student Affairs, Jack Wetzel - AHPF President,  
Dr. Forest E. Mahan - ATC President



Established in 2013 by the late R. Bruce Duchossois, the Aiken Horse Park Foundation received its IRS 501(c)(3) tax exempt status in November 2014, with a mission to promote Aiken's equestrian way of life and to encourage the community's civic, educational, and charitable endeavors

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 31, 2023

### **CONTACT**

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**AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA:** The Aiken Horse Park Foundation (AHPF) is proud to present the **Aiken Technical College Foundation (ATCF)** with a \$10,000 check donation from proceeds of the 2023 Aiken Charity Horse Shows. AHPF President, Jack Wetzel, and AHPF Director of Marketing & Communications, Kate Boggan, presented the check to ATC President, Dr. Forest Mahan, and ATC VP

of Academic & Student Affairs, Chad Crumbaker, Friday morning, July 28th, at the Winner's Circle at Bruce's Field.

AHPF Treasurer, Robert Hottensen commented:

*"The AHPF Board is pleased to make this gift to the ATC Foundation in recognition of our collaboration which furthers our connections to each other and shared mission to our community. From the Horse Park's perspective, we value ATC's capacity to bring resources to benefit our competitors and enhance our operations."*

Volunteers from the Aiken Technical College could be seen at the 2023 Aiken Charity Horse Shows (May 3 - 7 & 10 - 14) distributing morning coffee to the barns and greeting guests as they entered the VIP tent.

Since December of 2021, the AHPF has been working alongside ATC to develop the Equine Technician Course, which plans to welcome its inaugural cohort in the Fall semester of 2023. Beginning with intimate meetings at the "Jack's House" show office, focus groups of local industry professionals got together to give their insights into what the equine industry is starving for: motivated individuals with the safety skills and general equine knowledge to work in a barn and be an asset to their farm's program.

Since then, the AHPF has supported this amazing project by connecting the ATC faculty with equestrian industry leaders including: Emma Ford - Olympic Groom & co-author of *World Class Grooming*, Cat Hill - Equine Management Business professional & co-author of *World Class Grooming*, Anna Dunaway - Equine Nutritionist Purina Animal Nutrition, and Julie Robins - Founder of the Horsemanship Academy, all of whom will serve as adjunct professors in the Equine Technician Course.

In addition, AHPF staff member Kate Boggan (BS Animal Science, MA Equine Industry Management) will also be serving as an adjunct professor in the upcoming fall semester.

*"I am honored to be included in such a world class group of instructors," Boggan says. "We have an incredible team working to build a robust curriculum that will produce desirable employees for the Aiken equestrian community and beyond!"*

The Equine Technician Course is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to work in a variety of equine-related industries. During the program, students will learn about horse anatomy and physiology, behavioral signs, nutrition and feeding, and equine health care. Student will receive hands-on training in equine handling, grooming, and veterinary care. Aiken Technical College will also partner with local industry searching for new talent and connect these organizations with graduates.

For further information on the ATC Equine Technician Program, interested parties may contact:

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Aiken Technical College  
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Aiken Technical College Foundation is a nonprofit organization that supports Aiken Technical College in South Carolina, USA. Its primary mission is to raise funds to provide scholarships, grants, and other forms of financial assistance to students in need, as well as to support the college's educational programs and facilities.

### THANK YOU 2023 ACHS SUPPORTERS

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