

THUNDER

Carver: Lyde Buchtenkirch-Biscardi
Hyde Park, NY
Sponsor: The Backer Family

Thunder is an American Cream Draft Horse, developed in Iowa in the early 1900s. In logging days, draft horses did much of the hard work in the Adirondacks. They still work here.

When carousel aficionados visit, it is most often Thunder who catches and keeps their eye. It is unusual to find a draft horse on a carousel and rarer still that it be an American Cream. But it's his face that does the trick. Most carousel horses have a facial expression often described as "pained". Not Thunder. Thunder has the best draft horse job in the world!



In carousel terminology both Thunder and Paws are "Standers". Bubbles is also a Stander. Standers go around but they do not go up and down. Animals that do go up and down are called "Jumpers". Stationary seats on a carousel, such as a bench (or a boat) are called "Chariots".

PAWS

Carvers: Carl Borst and Andy Manchester
Rotterdam, NY / Saranac Lake, NY
Sponsor: Andrea and Tim Collins

Paws wears the colors of The Hudson Bay Blanket. European fur traders like The Hudson Bay Company would exchange blankets for beaver pelts. Native Americans and European settlers would often use them to make all sorts of capes, cloaks and greatcoats.

AMERICAN BLACK BEAR

Male Black Bears in The Adirondacks standing on their hind legs can be 5 to 7 feet tall and weigh up to 600lbs. Females are much smaller. They can sprint as fast as a human, climb trees, and are strong swimmers. Population estimates show that between 3,000 and 5,000 Black Bears make their home in The Adirondacks.

