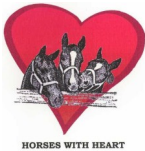


Bonnie Cunningham; MA, PT, HPCS

Bonnie is a licensed Physical Therapist in the states of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. She holds a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Arts in Physical Therapy and Master of Public Administration. Bonnie is a PACTH Registered Therapist, a PACTH Certified Riding Instructor and Certified as a National Assessor for riders interested in competing in National Events and the Paralympics. Bonnie is a Board Certified Clinical Specialist in hippotherapy, Coordinating Faculty for the American Hippotherapy Association, has taught internationally and presented at national conferences. Bonnie is practicing hippotherapy as part of a therapeutic riding program and in private practice. She has just completed her term as President Ex-Efficio of American Hippotherapy Association, Inc.



Shady Hollow Assisted Riding



959 E Main St.
Birdsboro, Pa. 19508
www.hugahorse.com

Cancellation Policy: AHA and Shady Hollow reserve the right to adjust program dates, times and faculty to accommodate unforeseen circumstances; we will notify advanced registrants for any program changes. Neither AHA nor Shady Hollow are responsible for any expenses incurred by registrants due to such adjustments. AHA and Shady Hollow reserve the right to cancel a course due to insufficient enrollment or unforeseen circumstances up to 2 weeks prior to the start of the course.

What is Hippotherapy?

Hippotherapy is a physical, occupational and speech therapy treatment strategy that utilizes equine movement. Hippotherapy is utilized as part of an integrated treatment program to achieve functional outcomes.

In hippotherapy, the patient engages in activities on the horse that are enjoyable and challenging. In the controlled therapy environment, the therapist directs the horse's movement and carefully grades sensory input. Specific riding skills are not taught as in adaptive horseback riding. In a PT, OT or Speech treatment session which incorporates hippotherapy as one of the treatment strategies the patient benefits from a foundation which is established through the movement of the horse to improve neurological function and sensory processing. This foundation can be generalized to a wide range of daily activities.

Therapists in the United States have used the movement of the horse for treatment since the 1970's. Hippotherapy is currently utilized in 24 countries around the world.

For further educational opportunities visit:

www.americanhippotherapyassociation.org

As of 1/1/2005, AHA Level I Therapist or Assistant and PACTH Registered Therapist or Assistant eligibility require both courses that are being offered these 4 ½ days. Therapy professionals trying to acquire Level I status may waive taking the Equine Skills Level I course if they have documentation of horse skills such as: Pony Club Levels, PACTH Registered Instructor, USDF Bronze medal. In addition, an applicant may submit a skills list, signed by a horse professional, that shows basic equine skills. This form can be obtained from the AHA Coordinating Faculty and will be reviewed to determine if Level I Equine Skills can be waived by the AHA Coordinating Faculty.

Shady Hollow Assisted Riding



American Hippotherapy
Association, Inc.
Approved;

*Equine Skills and Level I
Treatment Principles
Course*

**Equine Skills - March 22, 2012
Level I - March 23-25, 2012**



These courses are mandatory to become eligible for PACTH Registered Therapist Status.

Equine Skills Course Description and Objectives

This two day, hands-on, course targets therapists and assistants with minimal to no horse experience in non-mounted equine skills. Participants will work with horses in teams of two or three, with close supervision and assistance allowing an opportunity for demonstration, practice and individualized feedback and instruction.

- Correctly interpret the “body language” of the horse. Identify and name key anatomical points of the horse.
- Recognize elements of desirable conformation of the horse.
- Identify, describe the function of, and demonstrate proper use of grooming equipment.
- Identify key parts of the horse's tack.
- Demonstrate safe and proper tacking and un-tacking of a horse.
- Recognize and describe the four natural gaits of the horse.
- Recognize desirable qualities of the horse's movement.
- Recognize unsoundness in a moving horse.
- Recognize the signs of stress/burnout in the horse.
- Demonstrate safe, correct leading techniques with basic school figures.
- Demonstrate kind and humane treatment of the horse at all times.

For more information about Shady Hollow or the courses being offered:

610-858-7937

or

www.hugahorse.com

Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/ State/ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Height: _____ Weight: _____

(If your weight exceeds 180 lbs. you will be excused from the mounted practicum.)

AHA Member # _____

Profession & License # _____

PATH Instructor _____ Horse handler _____

Administrator _____ Other _____

New AHA Members will receive a \$25 education coupon, which can be used for this course. To become a member, (877) 851-4592 or www.americanhippotherapyassociation.org.

Equine Skills Course Only: March 22

- **\$150.00 AHA Member**
- **\$250.00 AHA Non-Member**

Level I Treatment Principles Course: March 23, 24, 25

- **\$350.00 AHA Member**
- **\$450.00 AHA Non-Member**

Both Courses:

- **March 22,23,24,&25**
- **\$500.00 AHA Member**
- **\$600.00 AHA Non-Member**

Treatment Principles Course Description and Objectives

This 2 1/2 day course is designed for entry level therapists utilizing hippotherapy as a treatment strategy and those in or working with hippotherapy teams. Hands on practicums are available in this course. It can be attended by graduate physical, occupational, speech therapists. Horse handlers and riding instructors who are members of the Hippotherapy Team are encouraged to attend with the treating therapist on their team.

- Know and understand the definition of Hippotherapy.
- Understand how the horse's movement affects human systems - A System's Approach.
- Describe possible responses of a patient to the movement of the horse's walk.
- Describe the unique contributions of the horse's movement as a treatment strategy and potential benefit for the patient.
- Understand the importance of the hippotherapy horse's suitability and movement.
- Describe the appropriate methods of horse handling during a hippotherapy session.
- Describe the selection and use of hippotherapy equipment for the horse and patient.
- Identify all factors that contribute to safety in the hippotherapy session.
- Identify key considerations for patient selection for hippotherapy including specific contraindications and precautions.
- Describe the key elements of patient evaluation and treatment planning.
- Describe methods of maximizing effects of hippotherapy, including school figures and movement progressions.
- Describe safe methods of transitioning on and off the horse.
- Have a working knowledge of potential emergencies and appropriate procedures.
- Describe the roles of the hippotherapy team members.
- Understand the business aspects related to hippotherapy including documentation, record keeping, reimbursement issues and insurance.
- Demonstrate kind and humane treatment of the horse at all times.