

Thursday, March 21

Pre Conference Tour 9:00am-4:00pm

This tour will include a behind-the-scenes walking tour of Keeneland Race Course where guests will share in the history and prestige of this beautiful attraction, a lovely property on the National Register of Historic Places. Located in the Horse Capital of the World, Keeneland is an internationally renowned racecourse and the Thoroughbred industry's leading auction house. Founded in 1936, Keeneland's mission is to continually invest in the industry and to preserve the tradition of Thoroughbred racing. During your tour you will travel through miles of the bluegrass countryside, passing distinctive stone fences, tobacco fields and barns, and, of course, luxurious, rolling horse farms. You'll get up-close-and-personal on a private tour of one of Lexington's signature working Thoroughbred Horse Farms. In addition, a visit to KESMARC is included. KESMARC Kentucky is the finest and most complete equine therapy center in the world. From Breeder's Cup winners to Grand Prix level horses, they have provided care to the top equine athletes in every discipline for over 20 years. A delicious lunch of local fare will be provided on this tour featuring "Kentucky Proud" products.

Registration Opens 12:00pm– 5:00pm

Exhibitor Hall Opens 3:00pm

Conference Opening Session and Presidents Welcome 5:00pm

Interactive Talk (Hot Topics) 5:30pm

HPCS Reception 8:00pm– Terrace Ballroom

Opening Reception and Silent Auction Open 6:30pm

Friday, March 22

Continental Breakfast 7:30am-8:30am

Advances in Motor Learning: Applying what we know in the "field"- Keynote Presentation 8:30– 10:30am

Human motor learning is an evolving science. What was once thought to be a top-down, brain driven program that could be restored, rehabilitated or recapitulated through the hands of skilled therapists, is now nearly universally understood to be a dynamic interaction of environment-body-and brain alike. This interaction includes attributes of the learner (subject, athlete, patient, student) cognition, awareness, prior experience, expectations, self-efficacy, and resources of the body

(pain free movement, endurance, strength, balance, etc.) combined with the demands of the environment (margin for error, risk of injury, embarrassment or other loss/reward). In contemporary motor learning, the skilled therapist does not use his or her hands to manipulate the learning, but instead recognizes manual contact as but one tool amongst task manipulation, cues, practice structure, all compiled in an individual manner that consider THIS PERSON's individual tolerance for error, success, and stage of learning.

Mike Studer, PT, MHS, NCS, CEEAA, CWT, CSST received his physical therapy degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1991. He received his post-professional MHS degree in physical therapy with neurologic emphasis from the University of Indianapolis. He has been board- certified as a Clinical Specialist in Neurologic Physical Therapy since 1995 and has been designated as Certified Exercise Expert in the Aging Adult (CEEAA) by the Academy of Geriatric PT since 2011.

He is a full-time treating therapist at and founder of Northwest Rehabilitation Associates, in Oregon. Mr. Studer has presented courses and published articles on neurologic and geriatric rehabilitation since 1995 and has authored and co-authored over 25 articles on topics of neurology and geriatrics, as well as several book chapters on stroke, PD, and preventative care as well. Mike is now regularly a guest lecturer on a national and international basis at several universities and national meetings on the topics of balance, motor control, motor learning, cognitive impairment and case management.

Keynote Panel Talk 10:45am-11:30am

Equine Biomechanics 1:00pm-2:00pm

A therapy horse is a horse that has been selected, conditioned, and trained to be included in the delivery of hippotherapy and characteristics include, but are not limited to: excellent quality of movement that is symmetrical, rhythmic, supple, straight, adjustable, and with self-carriage. It is important that the horse's gait be symmetrical to allow the patient to get the most out of the therapy. There are several factors that can affect the horse's movement and thus the therapy. These factors include fitness, natural asymmetry, lameness, and shoeing to name just a few. The normal stride parameters will be presented followed by the stride parameters during forelimb and hind limb lameness. The asymmetry of the trainer and/or client may also affect how the horse moves.

Rhonda A. Rathgeber, PhD, DVM. Dr Rathgeber is from Virginia and attended the University of Florida for a Bachelor of Science in Microbiology. She attended Washington State University for a PhD in Veterinary Anatomy and Locomotion. Her thesis studied the effects of different racetrack surfaces on Thoroughbred horses. She then attended Virginia Tech to complete her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. She joined Hagyard in 1995 and was one of the first two women to become Members of the Practice. Dr. Rathgeber is the Director of the Sport Horse Program. She has a special interest in acupuncture, lameness and imaging.

Nutrition Inside Out – Principles of nutrition with particular emphasis on balance of nutrients and nutritional issues commonly encountered in therapy horses.

2:30pm-3:30pm

The anatomy and physiology of the gut dictates the proper feeding practice and best feedstuffs for the horse. There are 5 classes of nutrients: water, energy, protein, minerals and vitamins. The requirements of each nutrient should be, not only met, but also in balance with each other for each physiological group of horses: maintenance, growing, breeding and performance.

The efficiency of supplying the nutrients will depend on the quality of the source. In terms of nutrient requirements, therapeutic horses would most likely fall in the maintenance or performance group, depending on the intensity and duration of the work. However, some of these horses may have some nutritional challenges such as insulin resistance, obesity and under condition that would require more specific dietary management.

Dr. John Lew was born in Hong Kong but grew up in Melbourne, Australia. He is a graduate from the University of Tasmania with an undergraduate degree in Agricultural Science. Dr. Lew earned his PhD in equine nutrition from the University of Kentucky in 1989, and prior to that he served as a research fellow at UK, centering his studies on animal science and pharmacology. Since 1989 Dr. Lew has been the director of nutrition for McCauley Bros. Inc. In his daily duties, Dr. Lew is responsible for the formulation of feed products, quality assurance, ingredient specifications and nutritional consultation around the world. Dr. Lew's expertise in equine nutrition is supplemented by practical, hands on horse experience. While in Australia, he successfully competed in combined training, steeple chasing and show jumping. During his time at UK, he also managed the University's horse farm for four years. He has donated much of his spare time as a certified riding instructor for a successful riding program, Central Kentucky Riding for Hope. Dr. Lew enjoys foxhunting and is a member of the Woodford Hounds. In his years at McCauley's John has served as a trusted advisor to some of the world's leading thoroughbred farms. There have been many changes in the past several years at McCauley's but John has been responsible for maintaining the formulations and ingredient selection that have set McCauley's apart since their inception. John continuously reviews scientific research and investigates potential ingredients to ensure that McCauley's maintains an edge in supplying the best possible nutrition to all horses. John was responsible for the creation of the first low starch and sugar product, Alam. Alam was first marketed in 1992 years ahead of other companies. John also was instrumental in obtaining a patent on Bio-time® the highly regarded hoof supplement.

Conditioning the Therapy Horse 3:30pm-4:45pm

Beginning a conditioning routine for any horse can be a daunting undertaking, and the horses used in therapy programs are equally in need of a good conditioning program. This talk will review the basics of conditioning and the benefits to each body system involved. We will also focus on specific muscle group development and strategies to develop those areas in the horse used for hippotherapy, with adaptations for clients with asymmetry or asymmetrical equine input requirements. We will also explore tools and assistive devices that may benefit your therapy horses and some special considerations that could influence the conditioning protocols.

Dr. Martha Rodgers grew up in northern Virginia and western Pennsylvania and always dreamed of being a veterinarian. She received her bachelors degree in Biology from Harvard University in 1988 and her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (VMD) from the University of Pennsylvania in 1992. Dr. Rodgers then completed an equine internship at Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital in 1993 and pursued a large animal surgery residency at the New Bolton Center from 1993 until 1995. She then returned to Rood and Riddle as an ambulatory associate until 2000. Dr. Rodgers completed her acupuncture training in 1999 through the IVAS (International Veterinary Acupuncture Society). In 2000 Dr. Rodgers started her own mobile practice, Shephard Hill Equine, focusing on lameness and acupuncture. She lives in Lexington, Kentucky with her husband and daughter.

Breakout Session 1 5:15–6:15pm

Healing Our Horses: The Masterson Method® and Other Bodywork Techniques

In this session, we will provide a brief overview of various body-based approaches to healing horses and dive more in-depth to explain how The Masterson Method® improves performance. Linda Frease will share anecdotes of her experiences with The Masterson Method®, Myofascial Release®, Cranial Sacral®, Kinesiology Tape, Theraplate®, and Photonic Red Light techniques. Megan Dushin, Masterson Method Certified Practitioner and Equine Specialist, will provide a thorough overview of The Masterson Method and its use with both performance horses and therapy horses.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand contemporary thoughts on integrative bodywork
- Consider ways bodywork complements training
- Explore selected complementary approaches to equine body work
- Learn the basic elements and principles of The Masterson Method
- Witness releases in a Masterson Method bodywork session in recorded video demonstrations
- Learn the steps to practicing one basic technique of The Masterson Method
- Recognize the role of bodywork in improving horse/human connection
- Compile resources for more information

PRESENTER(s):

Linda Frease, MHS, OTR/L, C/NDT, HPCS decided to learn more about equine bodywork after witnessing the impact on her own horse. She has explored various bodywork techniques and practiced with the horses at InStride Therapy in Nokomis, Florida since taking her first Masterson Method class in 2013. Additional course work with The Masterson Method, Equine Myofascial Release, Cranial Sacral, Kinesiology Taping and Photonic Red Lights, and access to a theraplate have afforded a range of tools to address performance. Most recently, she completed the Core Data comparative equine anatomy in clay class.

Megan Dushin is a Masterson Method Certified Practitioner and Equine Specialist. She provides equine bodywork to help improve performance and overall well-being, while also helping people learn how to practice this deeply respectful approach to serving horses in equine-assisted activities and therapy (EAAT) programs.

Breakout Session 2 5:15-6:15pm

Equine Rehabilitation...(We are like people too).

This presentation will be informative for all therapists, administrators, instructors and barn managers who deal with aging equines. To maintain the highest quality of equine movement for the benefit of our clients, all persons involved with the horse will benefit from understanding the primary factors influencing conditioning in the aged horse and utilizing specific interventions to efficiently maintain or restore their health.

Learning Objectives

- Identify the older horse- physically and physiologically
- Describe the metabolic syndromes most likely to be found in older horses and possible nutritional corrections
- Describe the effect of longlining/ long reining exercises when used for core strengthening, suppling and top line development
- Identify anatomical features of the horse's hoof that may hinder or help in developing the topline and suppleness

PRESENTER(s):

Jane Burrows, PT, DPT, HPCS. As a graduate of Georgia State and Boston University physical therapy programs Jane has been in practice for over 44 years. Recognizing the unique qualities that horses bring to human interactions, she has spent decades learning about them. Combining horses with work in Physical therapy provided the framework to explore new areas in biomechanics, sensory integration, and systems organization. Along the way she has added to her horse experience with a thorough grounding in barefoot hoof care, natural horsemanship training and schooling in long lining/ long reining.

Megan grew up on a horse farm in New York and grew up with horses in a US Pony Club and therapeutic riding foundation run by her mother. As an adult, she worked in the disability field as a direct care advocate, paraprofessional aide in schools, and EAAT volunteer. Megan also enjoys learning and practicing mindfulness and body awareness techniques - a perfect supplement to her practice. Having experience with her own healing, horses, and in the human services helps her see the unique value of using The Masteron Method as an equine assisted activity or therapy.

Poster Sessions and Exhibitor Sponsor Recognition Reception 6:15pm–7:15pm

Saturday, March 23

Continental Breakfast 7:00am-8:00am

Breakout Session 3 8:00am-9:00am

Using Hippotherapy as an Integrated Treatment Strategy to Support Feeding

This presentation should be considered introductory to intermediate and encourages attending practitioners to think “outside” the box in integrating hippotherapy and natural the environment. Using methodology typically seen in the clinic to assist practitioners in applying this knowledge into the natural environment with specific examples of treatment activities/ application will give practitioners some usable tools to take home to use with clients.

Learning Objectives

- Describe at least 2 approaches to addressing feeding difficulties
- Discuss several common contributing factors to feeding challenges.
- Identify several treatment strategies unique to the hippotherapy environment to support feeding goals.
- Discuss importance of and strategies to promote generalization of gains to home and community settings.

Breakout Session 4 8:00am-9:00am

EMR: Electronic Medical Record or Essential Management Resource

Documentation is the single most important aspect of practice management and the most difficult to allocate time for completion. The use of electronic medical record systems helps to streamline the process, produce professional documentation, generate metrics and create greater workplace efficiency. It is imperative that all therapists recognize the importance of defensible documentation for their own professional license and for their (not if but when) interactions with the insurance companies.

Learning Objectives

- Identify rationale for using EMR in your practice.
- Explore the relationship between documentation using an EMR and your state practice act.
- Explore the use of EMR for metrics necessary for grant submission or PATH Int. standards.
- Examine the relationship between and EMR and APTA defensible documentation.
- Identify and define the parameters for EMR selection- what is it capable of doing for your practice.

PRESENTER:

E. Jeanni Bonine MS, OTR/L, HPCS is owner/ director of Heightened Potential Co. A private practice integrating hippotherapy, early intervention, home based and clinical environments. Jeanni is a board certified hippotherapy clinical specialist, SIPT certified, EI provider and evaluator. She has a post professional masters in Complementary and Alternative medicine with an emphasis in holistic nutrition interventions and is eligible to sit for NANP board certification in holistic nutrition. She is part time faculty at Northern Illinois University. She lives on a small horse farm in Kirkland, IL with her husband and 2 kids.

Breakout Session 5. 9:30am-10:30am

Who, What, How? Mental Health Professionals and the Inclusion of Horses in Psychotherapy (and Why this Matters to OT, PT and SLP Providers)

Mental health professionals provide treatment of psychological disorders and some include horses in this process. What should OT, PT, and SLP providers know about their counterparts in mental health, both in terms of interdisciplinary collaboration on treatment teams, and related to larger issues in incorporation of horses in healthcare services? Learn about categories of mental health professionals, their scope of practice, and how they include horses in treatment in this presentation, which also includes a panel discussion with representatives from OT, PT, SLP and Mental Health on professional issues and practice.

Learning Objectives:

- Name six professions who treat mental disorders in the U.S. and necessary qualifications for practice
- Describe six basic elements of equine interactions that mental health professionals use to enhance psychotherapy
- Identify three professional issues that affect both mental health professionals and OT, PT, SLP providers

PRESENTER:

Nina Ekholm Fry, MSSc., CCTP, is Director of Equine Programs at University of Denver's Institute for Human-Animal Connection and Adjunct Professor in the Graduate School of Professional Psychology and the Graduate School of Social Work. For the past 15 years, she has focused on horses in human services, specializing in inclusion of equine interactions to enhance psychotherapy and counseling. Nina serves on the boards of the American Hippotherapy Association (AHA Inc.) and the Certification Board for Equine Interaction Professionals (CBEIP), and is chief editor of the HETI Journal, published by the International Federation of Horses in Education and Therapy.

PRESENTER:

Susie Rehr, PT, HPCS has provided physical therapy services to the pediatric population integrating hippotherapy treatment principles for the past 20 years at Special Strides, Inc. Quality care, clinical education, educational presentations, published writing, and national involvement in professional organizations are hallmarks of her career. Susie has trained over 30 clinical education students. She has contributed 5 or more presentations to the past 4 American Hippotherapy Association International conferences, covering a variety of issues. Susie is the executive editor of *Hippotherapy Magazine*, for which she has written 8 feature articles on topics ranging from documentation to program enhancements. As past board member and active committee chairperson for the AHA Inc. She maintains that the present and future use of hippotherapy in the treatment plans of physical therapists is her professional priority.

Breakout Session 6. 9:30am-10:30am

It's All About the Base - Balls, Bands, and Equine Movement Integration Ideas for Pelvic Floor Activation

When integrating equine movement into our treatment plan, we include a powerful treatment tool and knowledge of how to more effectively target and activate the pelvic floor with this treatment tool will be highly beneficial for therapists.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will be able to discuss the relationship of the pelvic floor to other core muscles/functions.
- Participants will identify ways to eccentrically and concentrically activate the pelvic floor using co-contractions with balls, bands, and equine movement.
- Participants will be able to describe possible precautions/contraindications for specific pelvic floor exercises when using equine movement

PRESENTER:

Dr. Samantha Hatfield, DPT, HPCS graduated with her Doctor of Physical Therapy from Creighton University with honors in the top 10% of her class. She currently works as a pediatric physical therapist at Skyline Therapy Services. She is a Hippotherapy Clinical Specialist and has been utilizing equine movement as part of integrated treatment plans for her patients for the past 5 years. She has served as a Clinical Instructor for physical therapy students from a variety of Universities around the country and has been previously published in the Journal for Orthopaedic & Sports Physical Therapy. She has extensive experience working with young patients with pelvic and core control issues.

She has a background as a mental health practitioner providing clinical services, as a competitive rider, riding instructor, and equine behavior consultant; and as an academic professional engaged national and international organizations for therapeutic equine interactions as well as equine behavior and welfare.

Panel Speakers

Ruth Dismuke-Blakely, MS, CCC-SLP, HPCS

Lori Garone, MS, PT, HPCS

Karen Gardner, MOT, OTR, HPCS

Jason Ledlie, MA, LPC

Clinical Reasoning 10:30am-11:30am

This will be a short preview of the new AHA Critical Thinking / Clinical Decision-Making Course to be offered in the summer of 2019. This one-hour preview will contain information about the process of developing higher level critical thinking skills and ethical decision making. There will be group and individual activities for participants to evaluate their own biases and discover how to improve their own abilities as a clinician.

Critical Thinking / Clinical Decision-Making Course

This is a one-day live course to be taught in a classroom and eventually transition to an online live webinar to address the process of critical thinking and objective analysis of facts to form a professional judgement for effective outcomes in treatment. The ability to form unbiased, ethical, rational analysis with an evaluation of the data collected either from an Initial Therapy Evaluation or Progress Note is a complex process that requires the therapist to be self-disciplined, self-monitored and be able to use self-corrective thinking. The skills needed include good communication, problem solving techniques and the ability to have the professional level of knowledge as well as collaborative and reflective processes. This course will take the therapist on the journey to improve these abilities to better serve their patients and grow professionally as a clinician.

PRESENTER (s):

Faculty

Lori Garone, MS, PT, HPCS, DCE is a 1990 Graduate Touro College of Health Sciences, Bachelor Degree in Community Health and Master's Degree in Physical Therapy Lori had a physical therapy private practice on Long Island, New York for 25 years incorporating the above interventions into her treatments for the pediatric population. She represented the United States at the First Symposium of Physiotherapists and Riding Instructors in Surry England in 1991 and was Clinical Director at Milligan Hill at The Center for Discovery in Harris NY from 2001-2005. She also was Interim Executive Director and Therapy Services Director at NCEFT from 2005 -2007. Lori is presently Director of Academic Clinical Education at South University Virginia Beach PTA Program.

Working with the Media to Promote Your Business 10:30am-11:30am

Showcasing your expertise as a knowledgeable expert is critical to marketing your services and products, and media exposure is a great way to do this. This session will help attendees learn how to work with the media, including equine media, local media, and mainstream national media. This information is helpful for anyone who wants to promote a business and/or raise brand awareness about your practice. Attendees will learn how to reach out to media, what types of stories to suggest to the media and how to pitch those stories, and how to form a relationship with the media. Learn how to prep for an interview, how to answer interview questions, mistakes to avoid, how to help the journalist to write the best story possible, and how to promote the article so more readers see it. In addition, this session will also discuss the benefits of using press releases, articles, and other forms of content in your marketing strategy.

PRESENTER:

Sarah Evers Conrad has been an equestrian journalist for 17 years. She has been published in *Horse Illustrated*, *The Horse*, *Arabian Horse Life*, *Paint Horse Journal*, *the Quarter Horse Journal*, *USDF Connection*, *Off-Track Thoroughbred*, *American Farriers Journal*, *Equestrian Stable Management* and *Blood-Horse* magazine. She is the Editor of the Certified Horsemanship Association's (CHA) annual publication, *The Instructor* magazine. She has served as Managing Editor of the United States Equestrian Federations *Equestrian* magazine, USEF's Director of E-Communications, staff writer for *The Horse* and Content Manager and travel writer for a Caribbean travel agency. She currently owns All In Stride Marketing and helps business owners shine online with web, marketing, social media, and content consulting.

Bonnie Cunningham, MA, PT, HPCS is a Physical Therapist with an MA, and MPA. She is a PATH Intl. Certified Riding Instructor and certified as a National Assessor for riders interested in competing in national events and the Paralympics. Bonnie is a certified clinical specialist in hippotherapy, coordinating faculty for American Hippotherapy Association, Inc., has taught internationally and presented at national and international conferences. She has served AHA, Inc. as their first executive director and board president. Bonnie has co-authored the AHA, Inc. courses: Long Lining: Maximizing Your Horses Potential and the Neuro Connection course. Bonnie was the 2007 recipient of the AHA, Inc. award for outstanding leadership. She has guest lectured on equine movement analysis for therapeutic riding horses at Centenary University in NJ

Learning Objectives:

- Participant will gain an understanding of Critical Thinking/ Reasoning and Clinical Decision Making
- Participant will learn the essentials of Clinical Decision Making and its application to patient care
- Participant will become familiar with clinical thinking and clinical reasoning terminology
- Participant will gain an understanding of the stages of learning in critical thinking and critical learning
- Participant will be familiar with the Decision Tree Process, Mind Mapping and Blooms Taxonomy in Clinical Decision Making
- Participants will gain an understanding in the application of the ICF model in Clinical Decision Making
- Participants will gain an understanding of the ethical and moral behavior in Clinical Decision Making
- Participants will gain an understanding of the Errors and Solutions in Critical Thinking and Critical Reasoning
- Participant will be familiar with the effects of Critical Thinking, Critical Reasoning and Clinical Decision Making in reimbursement and documentation
- Participants will take part in a reflective exercise

Learning Outcomes:

- The participant will be able to identify the errors and solutions in their critical thinking and reasoning skills
- The participant will be able to compare ethical and moral issues in Clinical Decision Making
- The participant will utilize the ICF model and Blooms Taxonomy in their Clinical Decision Making

Silent Auction Closes 12:00pm

Awards Luncheon 12:00pm-1:30pm

Breakout Session 7. 1:30pm-2:30pm

Current State of Scientific Evidence on Hippotherapy: A Systematic Mapping Review

The scholarship of hippotherapy has accumulated over time yet has not been comprehensively gathered and described and remains in early scientific development. A systematic mapping review using a phased, developmental approach to advancing complex interventions was conducted. Information gleaned from this review will serve as a guide for research and practice by illuminating where interventions named, hippotherapy, have fallen on the continuum of complexity, and trends in research including areas of progress and gaps.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the key elements and the rationale supporting a systematic mapping review study on hippotherapy.
- Distinguish areas of progress and gaps from the reviewed hippotherapy literature.
- Discuss implications for research and practice of the trends uncovered from the hippotherapy literature

PRESENTER:

Wendy Wood, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA is Professor in of Animal Sciences and Occupational Therapy and Director of Research of the Temple Grandin Equine Center at Colorado State University. Her research and scholarly interests have focused on the study of equine-assisted activities and therapies (EAAT) and is currently leading a team of graduate students in conducting a systematic mapping review study of all refereed papers on EAAT.

Beth Fields PhD, OTR/L is a postdoctoral fellow in the Center for Caregiving Research, Education and Policy at the University of Pittsburgh and in the Center for Health Equity Research and Promotion at the Pittsburgh VA Healthcare System.

Breakout Session 8. 1:30pm-2:30pm

Effective Implementation of Equine Movement as a Treatment Tool in Speech/Language Therapy

There is a general lack of understanding about the value of equine movement as a facilitation tool in speech and language therapy. While most beneficial for speech-language pathologists, this presentation will provide detailed information on the impact of equine movement in addressing communication disorders and serve as a resource for all therapy professionals who incorporate equine movement into their clinical practice.

Learning Objectives

- Identify 3 key neuromotor systems supporting speech and language that are impacted by equine movement.
- Identify 3 elements of equine movement that can be manipulated for each of the communication deficits presented.
- Identify 3 indicators of positive impact of equine movement on speech and language performance.
- Describe the basic process of integrating equine movement with other speech/language therapy tools and strategies.
- Identify 3 indicators of ineffective impact of equine movement on speech and language performance.

Neita Anne Miller, MS/CCC-SLP, HPCS, is an ASHA certified, New Mexico state licensed speech pathologist and lifelong horsewoman who has implemented hippotherapy as a treatment tool in her practice for the past nine years. Prior to that she worked as a horse professional handling therapy horses. As an AHA member, she is a Hippotherapy Clinical Specialist working at Skyline Therapy Services in Edgewood, New Mexico.

Her research and scholarly interests have focused on the study of equine-assisted activities for older adults with dementia residing in institutional care facilities and system-wide caregiver inclusion and training to support older adults with chronic conditions. Beth has presented her work at annual conferences for the American Hippotherapy Association and the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International. She is an active member of the American Hippotherapy Association and is currently a co-leader for their Research Committee.

.Neita has developed detailed treatment protocols that focus on equine movement as a primary treatment tool, carefully integrated with other standard speech/language therapy tools and strategies to address a variety of communication disorders. She has extensive experience in transdisciplinary applications of hippotherapy – working with both physical and occupational therapists daily. Neita serves as a clinical supervisor for graduate students in speech-language pathology attending clinical affiliations from several different universities at Skyline Therapy Services. She has previously presented on the importance of the proper training and professional handling of therapy horses. Neita currently serves on the American Hippotherapy Association Research Committee.

Breakout Session 9. 2:30pm-3:30pm

Getting Paid: Addressing Reimbursement Issues When Hippotherapy is Included in the Treatment Plan

There is a fundamental lack of understanding about reimbursement protocols when hippotherapy is included in therapy sessions. This presentation will offer instructional content and resources on dealing with reimbursement issues for treating therapy professionals who incorporate hippotherapy into their clinical practice.

Learning Objectives:

- Differentiate between appropriate and inappropriate terminology related to hippotherapy as a treatment tool/strategy appearing in marketing materials and clinical documentation that may lead to claim denials.
- Identify 3 common errors made when billing/coding therapy services where hippotherapy has been incorporated into the treatment plan.
- Describe the basic procedure for submitting and arguing a successful appeal to a denied claim where hippotherapy has been incorporated as one of the treatment tools/strategies within the therapy session

PRESENTER:

Ruth Dismuke- Blakely, MS/CCC-SLP, HPCS is a speech/language pathologist and professional horsewoman involved in using hippotherapy since 1978. She operates Skyline Therapy Services; an outpatient clinic specializing in the trans disciplinary applications of equine movement in PT, OT and ST. Ruth has published research and articles, presented at numerous conferences and workshops and has taught international-ly.

Breakout Session 10. 2:30pm-3:30pm

Out of the Classroom and Into the Arena: Identifying and Strengthening the Building Blocks of Foundational Literacy to Improve Academic Participation

The presentation will help participants develop targeted evaluation and intervention skills to improve treatment outcomes related to literacy through hippotherapy.

Learning Objectives

- Attendees will be able to identify the building blocks of literacy as they relate to the scope of practice of occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech language pathologists.
- Attendees will be able to describe how to evaluate a child to identify impairments in the building blocks of literacy
- Attendees will articulate the value of equine movement treatment strategies in promoting literacy
- Attendees will discuss specific interventions targeting the building blocks of literacy

PRESENTER:

Leah Van Antwerp, OTD, MS, OTR practices pediatric outpatient occupational therapy in Indianapolis, IN. Leah has both an OTD and MS in occupational therapy from Indiana University and has completed a pediatric neurodevelopmental leadership fellowship at Riley Hospital for Children. Leah incorporates hippotherapy into practice full time in pediatric practice at the Children's TherAplay Foundation, Inc, and also incorporates individual aquatics and group yoga and mindfulness through community-based practice in Indianapolis. She is a certified children's yoga instructor, and has taken coursework in providing a variety of pediatric intervention techniques, including reflex integration, hippotherapy,

She served on the Board of Directors of the American Hippotherapy Association, was 2nd V-President of AHA, helped develop the AHA curriculum, is an AHA Faculty Coordinator and currently serves as Chair of the Reimbursement Committee where she offers 36 years of experience in operating under a private practice model. Ruth is a former AHA Therapist of the Year. She served on the AHCB Board for 10 years, helping to design the Hippotherapy Specialty Exam, is an AHCB Clinical Specialist and is regarded as a leader in the field of hippotherapy as a treatment tool.

Breakout Session 11. 4:00pm-5:00pm

Dispelling the Myths: Postural Response to Equine Movement.

This presentation will review the essentials of equine movement while discussing a deeper understanding of the muscles and motor patterns necessary for postural control. It will challenge the experienced clinician to think deeper into their beliefs of action: response to equine movement. This presentation supports the knowledge of the novice clinician while pushing the advanced clinician to use critical thinking skills and expand their practice through knowledge translation.

Learning Objectives

- Review anticipated postural responses to typical equine movements including stop/start, acceleration/deceleration, elevations, bends, and circles, and the associated neurophysiology necessary for the control or balance reactions.
- Identify and compare the motor recruitment patterns of the flexors and extensors during postural response to varied equine movements such as stop/start, acceleration/deceleration, straight lines, bends, and circles while in various seated positions (forward sit/rear facing/side sit).
- Compare anticipated recruitment patterns with actual motor recruitment via video analysis and surface electrodes on three different individuals: client, inexperienced typical adult, and experienced rider.
- Investigate additional influences on postural control such as the presence of pressure gradients on the recruitment patterns of the flexors and extensors for postural stability in dynamic sitting and the potential involvement of the anterior (superficial front line) and the posterior (superficial back line) myofascial trains in the motor sequence during postural response to equine movement.
- Use critical analysis to apply collected information in the development of a comprehensive treatment plan.

vestibular dysfunction, neurodevelopmental treatment techniques, yoga, and child development. She is a guest-lecturer at the Indiana University Occupational Therapy Department and is the clinical education coordinator for occupational therapy students at the Children's TherAply Foundation, Inc.

Breakout Session 12. 4:00pm-5:00pm

This session will consist of 3 completed research projects, reporting on outcomes of using hippotherapy in treatment.

The Effect of Hippotherapy on Sensory Processing, Social Interaction, and Behavior among Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Multiple-Case Study.

This presentation will describe a unique multiple-case study that evolved and expanded because of real constraints and opportunities that arose during the recruitment, intervention, and data analysis stages. Presenters will describe research methods and share results that add to existing studies examining the therapeutic benefits of hippotherapy for children with autism spectrum disorder. The presentation will include implications of the study for OTs, SLPs, and PTs incorporating equine movement.

Learning Objectives:

- Recall key findings of a multiple-subject case study examining the effectiveness of hippotherapy on sensory processing, social interaction, and behavior among children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD)
- Transfer new knowledge of the perspectives of one group of parents of children with ASD on the therapeutic benefits of hippotherapy to interactions with the parents of clients
- Comprehend how key findings of a case study have implications for OTs, PTs, and SLPs incorporating equine movement in their interventions for children with ASD

PRESENTER(s):

Glen S. Cotton, OTD, OTR/L, HPCS is an occupational therapist, a certified hippotherapy clinical specialist, an educator, and a researcher. Dr. Cotton has significant experience providing therapy services to children with autism spectrum disorder and adults with neurological conditions. Cotton is assistant professor of occupational therapy at Midwestern University, Downers Grove, Illinois, where he teaches and mentors doctoral-entry students. In addition, he provides OT services to pediatric and adult clients at Horsefeathers Therapeutic Riding in Lake Forest, Illinois.

PRESENTER (s):

Susie Rehr, PT, HPCS has provided physical therapy services to the pediatric population integrating hippotherapy treatment principles for the past 20 years at Special Strides, Inc. Quality care, clinical education, educational presentations, published writing, and national involvement in professional organizations are hallmarks of her career. Susie has trained over 30 clinical education students. She has contributed 5 or more presentations to the past 4 American Hippotherapy Association International conferences, covering a variety of issues. Susie is the executive editor of *Hippotherapy Magazine*, for which she has written 8 feature articles on topics ranging from documentation to program enhancements. As past board member and active committee chairperson for the AHA Inc. She maintains that the present and future use of hippotherapy in the treatment plans of physical therapists is her professional priority.

Jane Burrows, PT, DPT, HPCS. As a graduate of Georgia State and Boston University physical therapy programs Jane has been in practice for over 44 years. Recognizing the unique qualities that horses bring to human interactions, she has spent decades learning about them. Combining horses with work in Physical therapy provided the framework to explore new areas in biomechanics, sensory integrations, and system organization. Along the way she has added to her horse experience with a thorough grounding in barefoot hoof care, natural horsemanship training and schooling in long lining/ long reining. Jane is a past president of AHA, Inc. and continues membership on several subcommittees. She is currently on staff at Special Strides in Monroe NJ.

Ciara Fitzpatrick, BS is an occupational therapy graduate student at Midwestern University in Downers Grove, IL. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders from the Pennsylvania State University. Over the last 10 years, she has regularly worked and volunteered with animals and children in a variety of settings. She hopes to continue to pursue this passion after earning her OTD degree. Her professional interests include animal-assisted therapy, early intervention, and sensory processing disorder.

Rachel Gascoigne, BS is currently an OTD student at Midwestern University in Downers Grove, IL. Prior to graduate school, she received her Associate of Science from Sauk Valley Community College and her Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences from Northern Illinois University. During her undergraduate studies, she volunteered for hippotherapy sessions where she worked with children with autism spectrum disorder, and from these experiences, she has developed a professional interest in working in pediatrics and becoming a certified hippotherapy specialist.

Occupational Therapy Incorporating Hippotherapy and Other Treatment Techniques for Children with Autism: A Multiple-baseline Single Case Experimental Design

Ten percent of children with autism participate in equine-assisted activities and therapies (Lindly, Thorburn, Heisler, Reyes, & Zuckerman, 2017). Yet, empirical support for these interventions, while promising, is limited (McDaniel-Peters & Wood, 2017). The purpose of this study was to assess the effects of occupational therapy incorporating hippotherapy and other treatment techniques in the equine environment on occupational performance, social functioning, and behavior of children with autism.

Learning Objectives:

- Describe how hippotherapy and the equine environment were incorporated into occupational therapy for children with autism.
- Summarize the effects of occupational therapy incorporating hippotherapy on the occupational performance, social functioning, and behavior of children with autism.
- Explore next research steps, including the creation of a manual to standardize and disseminate intervention techniques.

PRESENTER:

B. Caitlin Peters, Ph.D., OTR/L, is an occupational therapist and postdoctoral fellow for the Temple Grandin Equine Center, whose mission is to integrate education and research on equine-assisted activities and therapies. Her research program focuses on incorporating hippotherapy and the equine environment into occupational therapy for children with autism. Dr. Peters has published in the *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, and presented her research at several scientific conferences.

She is currently creating a manual to standardize and disseminate an occupational therapy intervention that incorporates hippotherapy and the equine environment to address social and behavioral outcomes for children with autism. Dr. Peters is also an occupational therapist and volunteer for My Heroes, LLC, where she incorporates hippotherapy as one treatment technique to help improve the occupational performance of the clients she serves.

Using the PEDI-CAT to Highlight Improvements Following 6 Months of Physical Therapy with Hippotherapy in Children with Functional Movement Impairments

Hippotherapy is the purposeful manipulation of equine movement by licensed Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, or Speech and Language Pathologists to engage the sensory, neuromotor, and cognitive systems to achieve functional outcomes. Current evidence suggests the use of hippotherapy results in improvements in gait dynamics, postural control, and balance but there is limited data regarding changes in the activity and participation domains of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health Model (ICF-Model) following physical therapy intervention using hippotherapy in children with a variety of movement disorders. The Pediatric Evaluation of Disability Inventory Computer Adaptive Test (PEDI-CAT), is a norm referenced activity and participation outcome measure, which can assess improvements in four domains: daily activities, mobility, social/cognitive skills (activity domains), and responsibility (participation domain).

Learning Objectives:

- Review and understand the structure, contents, purposes, and applications of the World Health Organization's International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health Framework (ICF-Model).
- Review of the Research Process Model and how it can be implemented to examine possible changes in response to therapy intervention using hippotherapy in a clinical setting.
- Discussion of how to implement a small to large scale data collection system in a functioning therapy facility that utilizes hippotherapy in the client's integrated plan of care.

PRESENTER(s):

Susan Conroy, PT, HPCS, received her MPT degree in Physical Therapy in 1988 from University of Southern California. She has been practicing since that time with a focus on children and adults with movement disorders. In 2007 she began to incorporate hippotherapy as part of her client's integrated plan of care as a Physical Therapist at The Shea Center for Therapeutic Riding. She currently is the Manager of Therapy Services at the Shea Center. She became a Hippotherapy Clinical Specialist in 2013.

She is a PATH Certified Instructor and PATH Registered Therapist. She initiated this research project in 2015 as a way to add to the current literature on the treatment efficacy of the use of HPOT as part of a client's integrated treatment plan, and determine if the PEDI-CAT could be effectively utilized with different disciplines and diagnoses as an outcome measure, in a cost effective manner, without significantly effecting treatment flow at the Shea Center.

Dr. Erin O'Mahony, PT, DPT graduated from Willamette University in 2013 with her B.A. in Exercise Science, and then Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in 2016 with her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree. During her time at Willamette University and Northwestern University, Dr. O'Mahony participated in multiple research projects examining the effects of community and intensive exercise on gross motor skills in people with Alzheimer's and with Parkinson's Disease. For her senior thesis at Willamette University, Dr. O'Mahony conducted a pilot study examining the effects of horse movement on gait parameters in children with movement disorders. Since receiving her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree, Dr. O'Mahony has practiced in outpatient pediatrics, early intervention pediatrics, school-based pediatrics, and has utilized equine movement in her client's integrated physical therapy plan of care. Dr. O'Mahony also continues to be involved in research and data collection for projects examining the effects of therapy using equine movement on functional mobility and daily activity outcomes in pediatric populations with a variety of diagnoses.

Patricia Evans PTA, AHCB, PATH Registered Therapist, is the Assistant Program Director at the Shea Center. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Exercise Science from Concordia University and has been a Licensed Physical Therapist Assistant full time for 18 years at the Shea Center. She has been involved in PEDI-CAT research project since it started in 2015. She runs the logistics for the project including management of the development of our technology system for advanced data collection.

Conference Closing Session 5:15pm