



Greenlock Therapeutic Riding Center e-Newsletter *"Horse Bytes"* December 2008

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*Girl Scout Cookie Kick-Off *

Celebrate Our 20th Anniversary With Us On October 17, 2009

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Sidewalker

***Greenlock
Celebrates the
Holidays With
Parties, Ponies and
Lots of Good Cheer!***

On Saturday ,
December 13 the
14th Annual Horse's
Holiday Party was put
on by Ed Darowski
and family.

The horse's enjoyed
homemade treats, a

Happy Holidays To All

Paddock News

Pony Profile - "Rocky"

**by Kathy Darowski, Greenlock Riding
Instructor**



Rocky is an adorable brown pony in his late twenties who has lived at Greenlock since 2002. Prior to his time at Greenlock Rocky worked as a lesson pony at a Hunter-Jumper

horse friendly tree, complete with carrot ornaments, and new lead lines for the year to come.

The volunteers and staff enjoyed homemade cookies and hot chocolate, which truly warmed us up on such a chilly day! Ed began hosting the party 14 years ago when Kathy came home with her first invite to the volunteer's party. It has been a tradition ever since.

Rocky, Joker, Jiminy, Toby, Taylor, D.J., Nate, Odin, Pippin, Pumpkin, Redd, and Amigo would like to thank Ed for such a lovely day!

The Annual Volunteer Holiday Party, including a Yankee Swap, was held on Sunday, December 14 at the home of Diana Alexander.

Staff provided the refreshments and a great time was had by all who attended. Diana has a lovely home and we are very grateful that she hosts this party for us each year.

barn. He became bored with his work there and needed a change- Greenlock was the answer.

Upon arrival Rocky was a pretty feisty guy. He was quickly dubbed "Rocket J. Squirrel" after we all witnessed his jumping ability - over a paddock fence! We were all quite impressed to say the least. Rocky began his training for the program and quickly became accustomed to his new life. The late famous pony, Freckles, became his best friend, roommate, and mentor. Soon Rocky began to actively participate in all aspects of the program.

We soon discovered that Therapeutic Riding is Rocky's niche. He is a patient, calm, and willing teacher to the many riding students at Greenlock. Independent riders find his trot to be active and fun, while those on lead take advantage of his ability to cater the speed of his trot to meet each individual's needs. He is also an excellent lunge horse for those riders on the cusp of independence - giving them the confidence they need to move forward. He is the favorite ride of many students and the favorite lesson horse of both Kathy and Erica.

Rocky also takes part in some Hippotherapy sessions. He has a narrow base and is easy for the therapists to reach, making him a great asset when treating a more fragile client. He is also a great horse to use when transitioning a rider from Hippotherapy to Therapeutic Riding.

Everyone at Greenlock loves Rocky. He is a great lesson horse and a sweet pony. And, much like Freckles show Rocky the ropes when he was new to Greenlock; Rocky is continuing the tradition and has become a devoted mentor to our newest horse Joker.

Horse Tails

Local Girl Scouts Help Greenlock Celebrate its 20th Anniversary

By Kathy Darowski

Thanks Diana from all of us at Greenlock!

Who We Are

Greenlock Therapeutic Riding Center, Inc., is 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit organization that utilizes equine-related activities for the therapy of individuals with physical, developmental, and emotional differences. Uniquely, the horses are our treatment partners. We offer both Hippotherapy and Therapeutic Riding that teaches specific riding skills. Hippotherapy is a practice in which physical, speech, and occupational therapists employ the horse's movement as a treatment tool to improve neuromuscular function, language and fine motor skills. Hippotherapy relies on the sensory input provided by the horse's rhythmic and repetitive gaits to prompt a neuromuscular response in the rider - a response that mimics the movement a child's body would ordinarily make while walking. We offer hippotherapy and therapeutic riding to physically, mentally, and emotionally-challenged persons from throughout RI and Southeastern MA.

To Learn more about our organization please visit www.greenlock.org

email us at

greenlocktrc@gmail.com

or call us at

(508) 252-5814

Girl Scouts from Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts have decided to make their service project for this year's cookie sales a donation to help Greenlock!

Sue Hodge Withers, a Girl Scout Leader whose son Evan rides at Greenlock, thought of the idea when she saw that this year's cookie mascot would be a horse named Cinnamon. Her son Evan has been riding Jiminy at Greenlock for seven years, and Sue has volunteered as a sidewalker quite a bit during that time.

Sue presented the idea of sponsoring Greenlock to the Girl Scouts, and after hearing her passionate speech, the girls were excited to help. The Cookie Kick-Off will take place the week after Christmas at Greenlock, giving the girls a chance to see who they are working to help. We would like to thank Sue for all her help over the years and for giving us this special opportunity to work with the Girl Scouts!

It was so nice to hear Sue speak so passionately about Greenlock. "It is truly amazing to see what they give to the children, their families and the volunteers," she said. "Just ask Evan if he wants to go see Jiminy, and he'll jump out of his chair!"

Likewise, what the kids, families and volunteers give to back Greenlock is amazing as well, and we are thankful to all of them.

