



Greenlock Therapeutic Riding Center e-Newsletter

"Horse Bytes"

Spring 2009

* Greenlock Pony Profile*

Interview with A Greenlock Instructor

Greenlock's Spring Horse Show: April 26, 2009

Join Us For The Greenlock Comedy Connection Event in East Providence, RI on May 9th

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

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See What's New This Month

[Save The Date: Greenlock Comedy
Connection Event](#)

[Pony Profile - "Odin"](#)

[Interview With Kathy Darowski](#)

Sidewalker

*Save The Date!!!
Don't Miss These Exciting
Events:*

Join us for Greenlock's
Spring Horse Show
Sunday, April 26, 2009
10:00am - 2:00pm

Hooray For Spring!

Paddock News

Pony Profile - "Odin"

**by Kathy Darowski, Greenlock Riding
Instructor**

&

Join Us For A Night Of Laughs
at the Comedy Connection in
East Providence, RI

Comedy Connection Greenlock
Benefit

Saturday, May 9, 2009

Doors open at 6:30 pm
Show starts at 8 P.M.

\$20 per ticket

For More Information:
www.ricomedycornection.com
39 Warren Ave., East
Providence, RI
401-438-8383

***Tickets Can Also Be
Purchased At Greenlock***

www.greenlock.org

55 Summer Street
Rehoboth, MA 02769
508-252-5814

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



Odin came to Greenlock in 1997 as a gorgeous young Halflinger pony. With the help of Gail Goddard-Taylor, a Greenlock volunteer, he was saddle trained and began working in the program. Since then, Odin has become one of the backbones of the program.

Odin's main job at Greenlock is teaching those students who have graduated from Hippotherapy to learn riding skills. Odin has a great understanding of the needs of his riders and is able to accommodate their myriad of needs. Odin is also great at challenging those riders whose skills have improved by insisting that they ride properly once they know how.

Odin also does a bit of Hippotherapy, mostly Occupational and Speech Therapy as his uneven movement is quite stimulating. His calm demeanor and broad back also make him a strong candidate for this.

Odin has been a great asset to the program and many riders favorite mount. He is a well known fixture at Greenlock who we hope to have for a long time to come.

Horse Tails

An Interview With Kathy Darowski

1. What is your job position at Greenlock and how long have you worked there?

I have been working full time at Greenlock since February of 2004. Prior to that I had been working part time since 2000. I began as a volunteer at Greenlock as a 15 year old in 1994. I am the lead instructor at Greenlock which means that I teach most of the lessons each week. I lead horses and sidewalk for therapy sessions. I also do a lot of the training and upkeep of the horses and clean the stalls 4-5 days a week.

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

2. Did you attend college or a specialty school? If so, where, and what was your major/area of concentration?

I received my MA State Instructors license and my NARHA license in order to be able to teach in a NARHA Certified Center. At this time I am about half way through a degree as a COTA - Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant

3. What do you think is the best part of your job?

Finding they key to unlock a riders potential. I base my lessons on so much more than riding skills. There is a social component, problem solving, decision making, physical strength, sensory awareness and many other things that I tend to focus on.

4. Were you a horse lover as a girl? Or have you come to know and love horses through Greenlock?

I was always a horse lover but did not have the experience to be around them as a child. When I began volunteering, Greenlock taught me a lot about ground work with the horses and the importance of having respect for the animal. My riding has also greatly improved with the help of Edith, our great horses, and Bruce Graham, a trainer who has been working with Greenlock's horses for many years

5. Is there particular horse that is your favorite?

Well Toby is my horse, so he is my favorite. But my favorite horse to teach lessons on is Rocky. And I have been training Nate, who is a young Halflinger.

6. What has been one of your best moments/experiences at Greenlock thus far?

One of the best things for me is having a parent compliment my ability or thank me for working with their child. I have heard first words and sentences, seen a child sit up or walk for the first time, and seen the aura of success when a riders control their own body as well as that of a thousand pound animal- it is magic.

7. Greenlock is approaching its 20th Anniversary - what are your thoughts on the last 20 years and all the years to come?

I feel that Greenlock is an ever growing and changing thing. It is able to mold and change as necessary to meet the needs of the community

8. Do you have a favorite activity that you like to do with your clients?

I like to create obstacle courses for my riders to maneuver through. This works on steering skills, direction following, sequencing, balance, coordination, and many other skills and is fun too!

9. If you could spread one message to the world, what would it be?

That the relationship between animals and humans should not be underestimated.

10. What is a "typical" day like at Greenlock for you?

I arrive at 8 A.M. and do stalls. We usually do lessons from about 9:30 to 5. During that time I could be teaching, leading horses, sidewalking, working with one of the horses, or whatever else needs to be done. The last lesson of the day ends at 5 after which we untack the horses, bring them down to the barn, and settle them for the night.