

## Claudia Morin, OT, HPCS

Claudia has a Master of Health Education degree in Occupational Therapy with more than 20 years of experience in Occupational Therapy which includes direct service, academic teaching and consultation. She is currently employed at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, Georgia as Manager of Occupational Therapy. Claudia is a NARHA Certified Riding Instructor, an AHA Registered Therapist and a member of NARHA since 1980. Claudia has been providing hippotherapy and therapeutic riding experiences for children with special needs in the Augusta area since 1982 and is founder and President of Blue Ribbon Riders, Inc. Claudia attended the Classic Hippotherapy Course held in Wilbad, West Germany in 1987 and participated in the development of the hippotherapy curriculums including the Introductions to Hippotherapy and the Intermediate Hippotherapy

## Lisa Harris, PT, HPCS

After graduating from Auburn University with a BS in Animal Science, Lisa received two degrees from the University of Kentucky: an MS in Vet Science, specializing in Equine Biomechanics and an MS in Physical Therapy. She has published an article on Equine Biomechanics in the Journal of Veterinary Science, and has presented in the US and Canada material from her MS Thesis. Lisa and her colleagues presented their MS PT Research Project comparing a human walking to sitting on a horse at the walk at the Ninth International Therapeutic Riding Congress in Denver in 1997. She currently practices physical therapy in an outpatient, private practice setting in Georgetown, Kentucky. She served on the AHA Board of

### Registration Form:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/ State/ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### For Treatment Principles:

Profession & License # \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Level I Course: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of hours of hippotherapy practice since attending Level I Course: \_\_\_\_\_

### For Equine Skills:

NARHA Instructor \_\_\_\_\_ Horse handler \_\_\_\_\_

Therapist: \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Course Manuals, lunch and snacks are provided**

### Fees:

#### Equine Skills Course Only:

\$350.00 Early Registration

\$400.00 Received after March 15, 2010

#### Treatment Principles Course:

\$350.00 Early Registration

\$400.00 Received after (March 15, 2010)

#### Both Courses:

\$700.00 Early Registration

\$800.00 Received after (March 15, 2010)



## Central Kentucky Riding for Hope

**PO Box 13155**

**Iron Works Pike**

**Lexington, Kentucky, 40511**

**(859) 231-7066**

**AHA Inc. Approved Level II  
equine skills and treatment  
principles**

Equine Skills ( April 1-2, 2010)

Treatment Principles ( April 3-4, 2010)

These courses are mandatory to become  
eligible for NARHA registered therapist  
status



OCCUPATIONAL  
THERAPY



SPEECH THERAPY



PHYSICAL THERAPY

**Contact:: Lisa Harris, PT, HPCS**

**lharris@qx.net**

## Equine Skills Course Objectives

- Recognize the importance of a common horsemanship knowledge base for the therapist, horse professional and all members of the hippotherapy team.
- Identify preferred conformation and understand the relationship between conformation, movement quality and soundness for the hippotherapy horse.
- Demonstrate the ability to access a horse for soundness, regularity and evenness of gait, straightness and flexibility.
- Demonstrate the ability to access horse behaviors including those resulting from stress and/or discomfort.
- Identify and convey to the horse handler the necessary skills required to produce quality movement when leading, lungeing or long lining the hippotherapy horse.
- Understand training techniques for a hippotherapy horse including groundwork, desensitization, and conditioning.
- Understand the principles of good nutrition, veterinary and worming protocols for horses in a hippotherapy program.
- Understand the importance of and be able to identify handling and riding skills that are necessary to maintain and/or improve the hippotherapy horse.
- Create and understand the importance of having a daily, weekly, monthly and yearly schedule for the hippotherapy horse.
- Understand the need to educate and train staff and/or volunteers who will be working with the hippotherapy horse, either in hippotherapy sessions or involved with the daily care and training routines, the handling techniques and training protocols to maintain a safe, effective and successful hippotherapy program.
- Identify lameness and illness in the hippotherapy horse and explain appropriate prevention through veterinary, farrier and nutritional and training protocols.

## Equine Skills Course Description

This 2 day hands-on workshop targets therapists, horse handlers, volunteers or anyone interested in the training and handling methods for a Hippotherapy horse. Participants must have taken the prerequisite course, Equine Skills - Level I or, have attained waived status from Equine Skills - Level I, before taking this course. It will give therapists and the Hippotherapy Team the training principles needed and how they are applied in a hippotherapy session to improve your horse and the efficacy of hippotherapy as a treatment strategy. The curriculum may be used only under conditions set forth by AHA, Inc.

## Treatment Principles Course Description

This 2 1/2 day course is designed to provide and facilitate a problem solving, treatment approach, using actual patients currently involved in Hippotherapy as part of their physical, occupational or speech therapy treatment. Practical applications to NDT, SI and Motor Learning Theory and Clinical Reasoning will be applied to the hippotherapy treatment strategy as well as an introduction to the Hippotherapy Conceptual Framework Theory. Therapists will be treating actual patients within a Hippotherapy Team, including video taping and group discussions to further advance the learning experience. This course may be attended by licensed, Speech, Physical and Occupational Therapists and assistants (PTA, COTA). The curriculum may be used only under conditions set by AHA, Inc.

The AHA Education Committee recommendation is to have at least six months and 100 hours of experience of 1:1 patient treatments incorporating hippotherapy as a treatment strategy before taking Treatment Principles - Level II Courses. Therapists who have more hours in less months may submit a written request documenting their background and number of hours they have completed to the AHA Education Committee to be considered in less time than the six month requirement.

## Treatment Principles Course Objectives

- Develop a hippotherapy treatment plan based on a disablement model.
- Select objective outcome measures for pre and post testing.
- Select appropriate horse and equipment for a specific patient.
- Practice modifications of equine movement as a primary method of enhancing patient treatment outcomes.
- Understand the relationship between treatment and functional outcomes.
- Identify appropriate functional outcome measures for hippotherapy patients.
- Review best practice guidelines for documentation, HIPAA compliance, and written and verbal communication among Hippotherapy Team members, other medical professionals and third party payers.
- Engage in group problem-solving using video review and discussion as a model for collaborative treatment practices.
  - Be introduced to the following concepts as a foundation for advanced clinical problem solving:
    - a. Clinical Reasoning
    - b. Hippotherapy Conceptual Framework
- Recognize and discuss indications for alternative positions and equipment.
- Recognize the importance of setting discharge criteria and establishing discharge planning, including potential for transitioning to community based programs