

**2026 Hambletonian Continuing Education Seminar**  
**The Fiesta Banquet and Conference Center – Wood-Ridge, NJ**  
**Friday, August 7, 2026**  
**8:00am – 5:00pm**

**7:00-7:45 AM            Registration**

**7:45-8:00 AM            Welcome Seminar Participants**

**8:05-9:05 AM            Crest Room**

**Podiatry Case Studies (Sponsored by Shreiber School of Veterinary Science)**

**Patrick Reilly, GradDip**

*Pat has been a farrier for 35 years and is employed by Rowan University's Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine as an Assistant Professor of Equine Podiatry. Pat has previously worked at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine as well as several other veterinary referral centers. A graduate of the Royal Veterinary College's Equine Locomotor Research graduate diploma program in 2022, his research interests include objective quantification of equine gait and the influences of farrier practices.*

This lecture presents cases involving veterinary and farrier collaboration, including sports medicine, laminitis and foal hoof management, with discussions on the available evidence supporting clinical decisions.

**8:05-9.05 AM            Fiesta Room**

**Separating Fact from Fiction in Equine Nutrition: Evidence-Based Answers for Common Client Questions (Sponsored by Standlee Western Forage)**

**Kelly Vineyard, MS, PhD**

*Dr. Kelly Vineyard is a PhD Equine Nutritionist and founder of EquiVine PhD Nutrition, a consulting firm dedicated to advancing science-based equine nutrition principles that promote optimal horse health and performance. With over 16 years of experience in the feed industry, Dr. Vineyard specializes in bridging the gap between cutting-edge nutrition research and real-world solutions. She holds a BS in Animal and Dairy Sciences from Auburn University, as well as an MS and PhD in Animal Sciences with an emphasis in Equine Nutrition from the University of Florida. A lifelong horsewoman, Dr. Vineyard is also a USDF Bronze and Silver Medalist in the sport of dressage.*

Horse owners today have access to more nutrition information than ever before, but the rapid spread of social media-driven misinformation has made client conversations increasingly complex. Concerns about ingredients such as soy and beet pulp, persistent myths surrounding alfalfa, and evolving discussions on topics like iron overload and vitamin E supplementation often shape client perspectives on equine nutrition. This lecture provides an evidence-based framework for addressing the most common equine nutrition misconceptions encountered in practice. Key topics are introduced through real-world client questions, evaluated against current peer-reviewed literature, and translated into clear, clinically relevant guidance. Emphasis is placed not only on what the science supports, but also on how to communicate that information effectively. Attendees will gain practical strategies to navigate conversations around ingredient avoidance, perceived food sensitivities, and the increasing interest in homemade ration formulation. The goal is to equip veterinarians with both the scientific knowledge and communication tools needed to respond clearly, consistently, and credibly in everyday practice

**9:10-10:10 AM      Crest Room**

**Integrating Equine Joint Supplementation into Lameness Management and Athletic Performance Preservation (Sponsored by Slide Joint Care)**

**Ron Riegel DVM**

*Ronald J. Riegel, DVM, graduated from the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine in 1979 and then completed a rotating internship at The Ohio State University. He owned and operated a multi-doctor private veterinary practice for more than two decades. Between 2007 and 2024, Dr. Riegel delivered over 275 lectures and seminars worldwide. He is the author of six published books, a co-editor and contributing author of six chapters in *Laser Therapy in Veterinary Medicine: Photobiomodulation* and has authored eleven peer-reviewed scientific publications. His professional activities also include service on multiple advisory boards, teaching, and interpretation of infrared thermal imaging through virtual platforms and contracted scientific writing for several publications. Dr. Riegel currently serves as Veterinary Medical Director for SLIDE LLC, engages in the development of innovative technology and software for Saniff IR LLC, is the Co-Founder and Director of Operations of the American Institute of Medical Laser Applications, and a consultant for AnimaSol™.*

Lameness is a leading cause of reduced performance, lost training days, and premature retirement in equine athletes. Conventional management strategies—including diagnostic imaging, intra-articular therapies, and pharmacologic anti-inflammatory

intervention—remain essential but are often directed toward managing clinical signs rather than preserving long-term joint health and athletic durability. As expectations for sustained performance increase, veterinarians are increasingly tasked with implementing proactive strategies that support tissue integrity, recovery, and functional longevity. Equine joint supplementation has emerged as a complementary tool within comprehensive lameness and performance management programs. Key nutraceutical components, including hyaluronic acid, Type II collagen, and hydrolyzed collagen, play distinct yet synergistic roles in maintaining synovial fluid quality, supporting cartilage and connective tissue matrix integrity, facilitating tissue remodeling, and modulating low-grade inflammation associated with repetitive athletic load. When integrated appropriately, joint supplementation may enhance joint homeostasis, improve movement efficiency, and support consistent performance while potentially reducing reliance on continuous pharmacologic intervention.

This continuing education presentation reviews the pathophysiology of joint degeneration and performance decline, examines the mechanistic and evidence-based rationale for targeted joint supplementation, and discusses practical clinical considerations for incorporation into veterinarian-directed lameness management plans. Emphasis is placed on transitioning joint supplementation from a reactive, symptomatic approach to a proactive strategy aimed at preserving soundness and sustaining athletic performance throughout the competitive career of the equine athlete. Learning Objectives At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to: 1. Describe the relationship between joint pathophysiology, repetitive athletic load, and performance decline in equine athletes. 2. Explain the mechanisms by which hyaluronic acid, Type II collagen, and hydrolyzed collagen support joint and connective tissue health. 3. Identify appropriate clinical scenarios for integrating joint supplementation into lameness management and performance preservation strategies. 4. Apply a proactive, veterinarian-guided framework for using joint supplementation to support long-term soundness and athletic longevity

**9:10 - 10:10 AM      Fiesta Room**

**Equine Eye Emergencies: What can be done in the field? (Sponsored by First Choice Marketing)**

**Nikki Scherrer, DMV, DACVO**

*Dr. Nikki Scherrer, DVM, currently serves as Associate Professor of Ophthalmology at University of Pennsylvania's New Bolton Center in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. Dr. Scherrer received a bachelor's degree at DePauw University in Greencastle, IN and*

*attended Purdue University for her doctorate in veterinary medicine. After graduation she started an internship at Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital and then a second rotating internship at University of Pennsylvania's New Bolton Center. This experience opened the door into an ophthalmology residency at New Bolton Center followed by a faculty position. She became a diplomat of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists in 2019.*

This talk will address common ocular emergencies: eye lid lacerations, corneal ulcers, stromal abscesses, uveitis, and glaucoma. We will focus on what diagnostics and treatments can be done in the field. Characteristics of each disease that indicate referral is needed will also be reviewed.

**10:10 – 10:40 AM      Morning Refreshments**

**10:45 – 11:45 AM      Crest Room**

**Closing the Treatment Gap: Optimizing Early Intervention in Equine DJD**  
**(Sponsored by American Regent)**

**Kyla Ortved, DVM, PhD, DACVS, DACVSMR**

*Dr. Ortved is an Associate Professor of Large Animal Surgery at New Bolton Center, University of Pennsylvania in Kennett Square, PA. She received her DVM degree from the University of Guelph in 2006 and completed her large animal surgical residency training at Cornell University in 2010. Kyla became boarded with the American College of Veterinary Surgeons in 2011. Following her residency, Kyla went on to obtain a PhD in gene therapy for equine cartilage repair at Cornell. In February 2016, Kyla became boarded with the American College of Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation. She joined the large animal surgery faculty at New Bolton Center in 2016 as an equine orthopedic surgeon and was named the Jacques Jenny Endowed Chair of Orthopedic Surgery in 2019. Her research program focuses on understanding the pathophysiology of equine osteoarthritis and developing gene and cell-based therapies to improve cartilage repair and prevent osteoarthritis.*

This CE course focuses on improving early intervention strategies for equine degenerative joint disease (DJD)/Osteoarthritis (OA). The course examines current veterinary management practices for OA and explores various treatment modalities, survey data on treatment perceptions, and the role different product play in DJD/OA management decisions.

**10:45 – 11:45 AM      Fiesta Room**

**Veterinary Equine Dentistry for the Veterinary Practitioner**

**James Casey, D.V.M., M.S.**

*Dr. Casey has trained and raced thoroughbreds throughout the mid-Atlantic tracks since the early 1980's. He continues to train a small stable of his own horses and exercises them himself regularly. Dr. Casey achieved his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.) degree from Tuskegee University in Alabama, 1988. Dr. Casey is also a graduate of James Madison University in Virginia. He earned a Master's of Science Degree, as well as Bachelor of Science Degrees with studies in Biology and Chemistry. Dr. Casey has Veterinary Licenses and is a State Accredited Veterinarian in the following states: Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Florida, New Jersey and Kentucky. Dr. Casey is also certified to practice by the Federation of St. Kitts / Nevis island country in the Caribbean (Internationally). In 1988, Dr. Casey established his practice, Equine Sports Medicine, and Dentistry. His veterinary specialty interests include lameness problems, pre-purchase examinations, and the comprehensive care of Performance and Racing Horses. Using modernized equipment, Dr. Casey practices Advanced Equine Dentistry on all types of horses. Dr. Casey is a founding member of NAARV (North American Association of Racetrack Veterinarians) Dr. Casey has taught and been a guest instructor of clinical equine medicine and surgery in several veterinary schools including Tuskegee University School of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State University's School of Veterinary Medicine, The University of the West Indies, University of Edinburgh Scotland. Dr. Casey learned to ride horses at an early age while growing up in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. As a teenager, he road professionally as a jockey (flat races).*

Veterinarian Participants will learn about the history of veterinary medicine and dentistry, the practice of Equine Dentistry requires considerable skill, knowledge, and expertise. They will get a refresher on the differences in horse's teeth, problems indicating dental issues, common abnormalities, and Let's Talk About Wolf Teeth. In this session Veterinarian Participants will learn about the inadequacies of Laypeople (tooth floaters) practicing dentistry on horses, why Equine Dentistry is Veterinary Medicine and best left in the hands of the Licensed Veterinarian. Also, Advances in Equine Medicine will be discussed and What to look for in a good Equine Veterinarian doing Dentistry.

**11:50 – 12:50 AM      Crest Room**

## **From Barn to Record: Using AI to Reclaim Time and Stay Fully Present In Your Equine Practice (Sponsored by Talkatoo)**

**Shawn Wilkie**

*Shawn Wilkie is a serial entrepreneur and technology enthusiast who has founded six companies over the past 20+ years. As a passionate supporter of the pet health industry, Shawn has worked tirelessly to create tools that positively impact veterinary professionals both in their day-to-day clinical operations and personal lives. Shawn is currently the CEO of Talkatoo, a company that provides dictation software that saves veterinary professionals time on record-keeping. Talkatoo reduces burnout allowing veterinary professionals to spend more time with their patients. He also produces and co-hosts the top-rated Veterinary Innovation Podcast.*

Equine veterinarians did not choose this profession to spend hours on paperwork, yet medical records often steal time, focus, and energy from patient care. In this session, Shawn Wilkie, CEO of Talkatoo, will show how AI-powered tools can remove the burden of manual record keeping and help you complete accurate medical records faster while staying fully present with your patients and clients. Designed specifically for solo equine practitioners, this talk includes real-world use cases and live demonstrations of features like Auto-Records and Auto-Follow-Ups, showing how you can simplify your workflow, reduce after-hours work, and reclaim hours in your week.

**11:50 – 12:50 PM      Fiesta Room**

## **Keeping Burnout at Bay (Sponsored by Decade One & First Choice Marketing)**

**Amy Grice, VMD, MBA**

*Dr. Grice was an ambulatory equine practitioner in the Hudson Valley of New York for over 25 years, serving as the managing partner of a thirteen-doctor equine referral hospital in Rhinebeck, NY. At the end of 2014, she retired from clinical practice to concentrate on veterinary business consulting, and moved her residence to Virginia City, MT. Dr. Grice received her BA in Biology from Wellesley College in Massachusetts and completed her veterinary education at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine in 1990. She earned her MBA with a concentration in Ethical Leadership from Marist College School of Management in 2014. Dr. Grice is a member of the American Association of Equine Practitioners, where she served on the Board of Directors from 2015-2018, and as treasurer from 2021-2023. She also has served as a*

*member of the AVMA Economic Strategy Committee from 2018-present. Dr. Grice is a frequent speaker at educational seminars for veterinarians across the country, as well as the founder of Decade One and Starting Gate, which offer networking and business education groups for equine veterinarians and veterinary students. She is the host of the Business of Practice podcast and writes regularly for EquiManagement magazine. In addition, she consults with a diverse range of veterinary businesses and collaborates with industry partners to bring business education to veterinarians. Dr. Grice also aids with transitions of ownership, strategic planning, financial projections, and other solutions for private practitioners.*

Burnout has been recognized for many years as an occupational hazard for various people-oriented professions, such as human services, education, and health care. This session will review the reasons equine veterinarians are particularly at risk, and discuss changes needed to support mental health.

**12:50 – 2:50 PM      Lunch Break - Exhibition Area**

**2:50 – 3:50 PM      Crest Room**

**From Starved to Stable: Best-Feeding Practice Nutrition for Refeeding and Managing the Equine Hard Keeper (Sponsored by Triple Crown Nutrition)**

**Carey Williams, Ph.D.**

*Dr. Carey A. Williams is the Equine Extension Specialist, and Interim Director of the Equine Science Center at Rutgers University, where she focuses on equine nutrition, exercise physiology, and management practices that promote horse health and performance. With an M.S. and Ph.D. in Animal Science (Equine Nutrition focus) from Virginia Tech, Dr. Williams has become a respected expert in the field, contributing significantly to research and education in equine science. Her work includes developing educational programs for horse owners and professionals, conducting research on equine nutrition, and advising on best practices for horse care. Dr. Williams is also actively involved in outreach, helping to bridge the gap between scientific research and practical horse management. As a hobby, she is currently training her 9-year-old sport horse, Palmer, for dressage and eventing.*

This talk will guide equine veterinarians through the critical phases of safely refeeding the starved horse, including identifying refeeding syndrome risk and designing controlled, forage-first nutrition plans. We'll review monitoring parameters, electrolyte shifts, and realistic timelines for recovery. The session also covers practical, science-supported strategies for managing the thin "hard keeper," from ruling out

medical causes to optimizing forage, concentrates, and metabolic support. Attendees will leave with clear protocols they can apply immediately in the field.

**2:50 – 3:50 PM          Fiesta Room**

**Rehabilitation and Shoeing Strategies for Tendons & Ligament Injuries in Horses**  
**(Sponsored by First Choice Marketing)**

**Kara Anne Brown, VMD, DACVSMR**

*Kara Anne Brown is from Washington State. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine before completing a private practice equine internship at Woodside Equine Clinic, followed by a large animal rotating internship at the University of Pennsylvania, New Bolton Center. She went on to complete a fellowship in Large Animal Cardiology and Ultrasound and a residency in Equine Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation, also at New Bolton Center, becoming boarded with the ACVSMR in 2021. She is currently an Assistant Professor of Equine Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation at New Bolton Center, with a clinical and research appointment. Her areas of clinical and research interest include evidence based rehabilitation, axial skeletal pain, and poor performance in the athletic horse.*

This lecture will provide an in-depth overview of the key principles and practices involved in the rehabilitation and shoeing of horses recovering from tendon and ligament injuries. The lecture will begin by reviewing common tendon and ligament injuries in horses, including the pathophysiology behind these injuries. We will discuss modalities for rehabilitation intended to improve quality of healing and outcome in tendon and ligament injuries including the data supporting these modalities. Finally, we will explore the complex role that farriery plays in supporting the healing process and enhancing the horse's return to soundness and performance.

**3:55 – 4:55 PM          Crest Room**

**One Wrong Step: Diagnosis and Management of Penetrating Foot Wounds in the Horse**  
**(Sponsored by First Choice Marketing)**

**James A. Orsini, DVM, Dipl. ACVS**

**Alex Scharf, DVM, PhD, Dipl. ACVR, Dipl. ACVR-EDI**

*James A. Orsini is an Associate Professor of Surgery, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Orsini received his DVM from Cornell University and completed his internship, surgery residency, and fellowship/lectureship training at the University of Pennsylvania's New Bolton Center campus. He is board certified in surgery by the American College of Veterinary Surgeons with a special interest and expertise in orthopedic and reconstructive surgery, and laminitis, amongst other surgery areas. He has published extensively on equine pediatric surgery, antimicrobials, laminitis, gastric ulcers, pain, and anti-inflammatory medications with several hundred publications. He is co-editor of Equine Emergencies with Dr. Nora Grenager, with the 5th edition in 2026. Previous four editions of Equine Emergencies, co-edited with Dr. Thomas Divers, are translated into seven foreign languages (Spanish, French, German, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, and Chinese). Comparative Veterinary Anatomy: A Clinical Approach is co-edited with Drs. Nora Grenager, and the late Alexander de Lahunta. Dr. Orsini's current research interests are in understanding the pathophysiology of laminitis, prevention, and improved treatments, and newer generations of antimicrobials for prophylactic use in surgery.*

*Dr. Scharf completed her undergraduate at Cornell University, followed by her doctoral studies and DVM at the University of Georgia. She then completed rotating internships in large and small animal medicine followed by a diagnostic imaging residency at Ohio State University. She received her board certification with the American College of Veterinary Radiology in 2023 and her certification for equine diagnostic imaging specialty in 2024.*

Penetrating wounds of the equine foot represent some of the most diagnostically and therapeutically challenging emergencies encountered in equine practice. This presentation provides a practical, imaging-based framework for triaging and managing penetrating wounds, with emphasis on anatomic risk stratification based on the location and trajectory of the foreign body or wound tract. The critical role of advanced imaging—including standing radiography, contrast fistulography, and cross-sectional modalities such as MRI—in defining wound tract depth, identifying synovial or osseous involvement, and directing surgical vs medical decision-making will be highlighted. Specific anatomic danger zones of the solar surface will be reviewed in the context of underlying structures at risk, including the navicular bursa, distal interphalangeal joint, and digital flexor tendon sheath. Criteria for outpatient management vs. referral and prognostic indicators informed by imaging findings and anatomic involvement will also be addressed. Attendees will leave with a strengthened diagnostic approach and a

clearer understanding of outcome expectations for one of the most time-sensitive emergencies in equine medicine.

**3:55 – 4:55PM          Fiesta Room**

**From Head to Hoof: Distinguishing The Neurologic Horse From The Lamé Horse**  
**(Sponsored by First Choice Marketing)**

**Sarah Colmer, VMD, DACVIM-LAIM**

*Sarah F. Colmer, VMD, DACVIM, a Jersey Shore-native, graduated from Drew University in 2013 and then from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine in 2017, subsequently completing internships at Mid-Atlantic Equine Medical Center in New Jersey and Penn Vet's New Bolton Center prior to becoming board-certified in Large Animal Internal Medicine at New Bolton Center in 2022. She is currently a Fellow in Neurology at Penn Vet's New Bolton Center and Matthew J. Ryan Hospitals. Sarah has passions for clinical cases, teaching and research alike. In her spare time, she enjoys running, hiking, her Peloton and spending time in Philadelphia with her husband, Matt and their dog, Nova.*

This lecture provides a framework for differentiating between musculoskeletal disease and primary neurological deficits in horses. This lecture will focus on specific aspects of the neurological evaluation, and the most common sources of general proprioceptive ataxia will be highlighted, as well as suggestions for cases with combinatorial gait deficits.

*Revised: 05/06/2026*