

# HETI and Hippotherapy in Russia

The VIII International conference was held by the Russian National Federation of Hippotherapy and Adaptive Riding on August 25-27 in Saint-Petersburg. More than a hundred people from Russia and CIS gathered together to share the experience of equine assisted therapy. The program covered the therapeutic aspects, social benefits of interaction with a horse, paralylmpic and special olympic sports and even management issues.

Worth mentioning were the presentations by Dr. D. Evmenov from Novosibirsk on GMFM-based tracking of rehabilitation and by Dr. A. Miroshnikov from Kiev on pilot study of hippotherapy efficiency for children with ASD.

During the conference the annual meeting of Federation members took place. It was devoted to the discussion of the Nation Standard for equine-assisted therapy. This document declares the recommendations for such activity, covering both the qualification of therapists and trainers and the requirements for arena and equipment. Adoption of this Standard is a big step towards the truly effective and cooperative work at the national level.

The conference was followed by the HETI educational course



"Biomechanics of horse and human. Introduction to interactive vaulting" by Sanna Mattila-Rautiainen and Gisela Rhodes.

During the intense three-day workshop students learned much about horse biomechanics and effects of horse-rider interaction, schooling and basics of interactive communication with the horse. Broad practice program gave each student a chance to try himself in "being a horse", practice long-lines and perform vaulting exercises and activities.

Here is what people said about the course:

"[This] course helps to improve qualification for wide range of specialists, not only adaptive riding trainers... Presenters are truly the masters of their art, and the methods they teach are useful for everyone involved in horsemanship."

"It's always a good idea to revisit the basics of our methods and to learn something new. I am really excited to try interactive vaulting with some of my patients back at home. And of course all my coworkers should test themselves in this "being a horse" game."

"[The] national federation was really glad to host this training. I want to thank our guest lecturers for sharing their knowledge and experience. We plan to develop the collabo-



n continuous actions of HETI-Asia Forum in 2016, Korean Academy of Therapeutic Horsemanship (KATH) organized 2017 International Symposium on November 6, 2017. KATH invited HETI President, Sanna Mattilla-Rautiainen and Vice president, Vera Horne as guest speakers. The theme was Hippotherapy and Psychological Approach to Equine Therapies.

For opening ceremony, KATH vision of hosting 2021 HETI Congress in Seoul, Korea was shared by Dr. Yun Hee Kim, the Chair of Bidding committee for 2021 HETI Congress. Following the opening ceremony, Vera gave speech regarding Psychological Treatment Approach in Therapeutic Riding. Vera introduced very important facts to the audience how important to talk to our candidates either verbal or nonverbal, not their care givers. Sanna gave the speech regarding Hippotherapy, physical approach to Equine Therapies. She also emphasized



Sanna Mattilla-Rautiainen, HETI President

the quality movement of horses through the workshop held in the afternoon.

Following the day of academic symposium and workshop, Seoul Site Inspection was done with Sanna and Vera, and KATH boards with Dr. Yun Hee Kim, the Chair of Bidding committee for 2021 HETI Congress. Seoul Convention Bureau organized the visits for the potential

Continued on page three



### **HETI Newsletter**

## Membership in HETI

HETI has several membership levels with specific features. Choose the membership level that suits you or your organization's needs.

Federation Member - This member is any organization (including for-profit organizations) desiring to be a formative member of the HETI federation. This member has voting rights (one vote per organization) and full access to all materials (journal, triennial membership directory, on-line journal articles, advertising, discount for Congress, etc.). Federation Members have a specialized area of the HETI website as well. All IEC nominees need to be affiliated with a Federation Member, so the history, foundation, ethos and governance of HETI would be continuous. Federation membership needs to be approved the International Council. For more information, please contact the HETI Office at office@hetifederation.org

**Institute Member** – This membership category for colleges and universities, research institutes (physical, cognitive and emotional) and organizations, and organizations with educational and/or certification capabilities. It does not confer voting rights. These members will receive hard copies versions of materials. Institute Members can also apply to become a Federation Member if they met the criteria established by the IEC.\*\*

**Business Member** – This level is for organizations, businesses and individuals who are active in equine assisted activities, therapy and education, or related fields such as an equipment vendor, or other equine service provider. This non-voting membership level receives publications electronically.

Associate Member – This member level is for individuals, organizations, and institutes whose interest in HETI is primarily to stay abreast of what is happening in the field of equine assisted activities. These members will receive the journal and the directory in electronic form.

**Honorary Member** – This membership is an *electronic* membership, granted by the International Executive Committee, to affiliated organizations and individuals.

Download an application, make payments through PayPal, and get further information and news at our website: http://www.hetifederation.org/ membership.html

### **HETI and Hippotherapy in Russia**





Continued from page one ration with HETI and looking forward to next events like this. " Dr. A. Denisenkov, President of Russian National Federation of hippotherapy and adaptive riding

The organizers want to thank Venta Horse Club for accommodation.

-Anton Saratov



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# **Polish Hippotherapy Center Searches for New Home**

The Fundacja Pomocy Dzieciom Niepełnosprawnym HIPOTERAPIA (Handicapped Children Aid Foundation HIPOTERAPIA) has been working in Warsaw for over 30 years in close cooperation with Warsaw University of Life Sciences. Due to motorway construction it is losing its location for therapeutical activities.

There is a serious danger that after 30 years one of the oldest and best hippotherapeutical centers in Poland will disappear. There are thousands of patients in Warsaw (in 2017 we had 100 clients), thousands of hours of therapeutical work, and thousands hours of volunteers work, which have supported us during all those years. Our clients are children with different kinds of disabilities and developmental challenges. We also work with groups of adults, for whom hippotherapy is no longer therapy only but also passion and chance to get away from social isolation, which is often a part of life for mentally handicapped adults.

Our Foundation has been a place where hippotherapy courses have taken place, and students from medical departments have been learning about hippotherapy. Since 2000 we have been cooperating with HETI. Polish hippotherapy plays important role in development of this field in Central- Eastern Europe.

All of this came to the end in the middle of October! For 30 years we had been guests of Warsaw University of Life- Science, they rented us the stable, place and building. We were repaying by scientific cooperation: students were completing practices, writing bachelors and master works under

International Congress of

Equine Facilitated Programmes

our patronage. We organized international hippotherapy conferences. Despite parents pressure and other supporters from scientific and even political area, the Rector of Warsaw University of Life Sciences did not change his mind.

We are currently looking for a place where we could continue our work. We have great team of therapists, fantastic horses and over 100 clients disconsolated because of compulsory break. Finding a place accessible for disabled and at the same time conductive for this kind of therapy in the city is not easy. What makes it even harder is, that during those 30 years the only capital we have earned are people and we are not in funds for investments. We will be grateful for any kind of help.

—Anna Strumińska

# Registration Now Open

Visit the Congress website: **HETI 2018** for registration and information.

### **Keynote Speakers**

**William Micklem:** Going over the EDGE. An empowering approach to coaching

#### **Patricia Pendry:**

Research on Equine Assisted Activities: Causal findings, implications for practice, and future directions

#### Martine Hausberger:

Equines and Equine Assisted Activities: Maintaining Their Welfare and Well-being – the Challenges and the Solutions

**Ed Bracher:** Meeting the Challenges of Supporting Riders with Support Needs in a Modern and Efficient Manner

### **KATH Symposium**

Continued from page two

venues and special unique venues for 2021 HETI Congress. With the Inspection tour, we could picture the 2021 HETI Congress in Seoul, Korea clearly.

I, on behalf of KATH, gracefully thank Sanna and Vera for making the 2017 KATH International Symposium successful by coming to Korea. We greatly appreciate HETI's infinite support.

-Amy Lee