

## *Equine Therapeutic Farriery*

Therapeutic farriery requires a thorough knowledge of foot anatomy, physiology, biomechanics and imaging, as well as the farrier skills necessary to implement this specialized farriery.

Being both a veterinarian and a professional farrier allows Dr. O'Grady to treat each foot problem with an understanding of both the medical physiology and the mechanics involved. This



melding of the two professions allows him to comprehensively diagnose, treat and design a maintenance plan for a variety of foot conditions using medical therapy as well as therapeutic farriery. Medical therapy such as surgery and various medications are often combined with therapeutic farriery. Dr. O'Grady's methodology centers around using the basic principles of farriery and when necessary combining these principles with advanced technology and the improved farrier products available.



# NORTHERN VIRGINIA EQUINE

EQUINE THERAPEUTIC FARRIERY

CONSULTING SERVICE

*“Whether it is an upper level sport horse with a foot lameness or a complicated case of laminitis, therapeutic farriery will form all or part of the treatment.”*

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## *Background*

Dr. Steve O'Grady started his equine career as a professional farrier, which he learned through a formal 3 year apprenticeship under legendary farrier Joe Pierce of West Chester PA. He maintained a farriery practice focused on young stock and competition horses for ten years before deciding to attend veterinary school.



Dr. O'Grady has spent the last 28 years practicing veterinary medicine with an emphasis on the equine foot. He now operates Northern Virginia Equine in Marshall Virginia, which is a practice devoted to equine podiatry and therapeutic farriery. He also maintains a consulting service in which he travels worldwide to treat complicated podiatry cases. He has published over 20 peer reviewed papers in the veterinary literature, numerous papers in the farrier literature and written five book chapters resulting from his extensive work in equine podiatry. He frequently lectures on equine foot problems and farriery both in the US and overseas. Dr. O'Grady is a seasoned FEI Delegate and he was recently inducted into the International Equine Veterinarians Hall of Fame.

## *Services*

As a result of Dr. O'Grady's vast experience and expertise with the equine foot, a unique consulting service is available. Consultations can be handled in various manners and are useful for severe hoof disease, juvenile orthopaedic issues or sport horses in which chronic lameness has been localized to the foot.

**PHONE** – A thorough history, digital radiographs, digital pictures of the feet and often a video is submitted to Dr. O'Grady. After evaluation of the material, Dr O'Grady will formulate a treatment plan, consult with the attending veterinarian and farrier, and submit a written report of his findings.

**FARM VISITS** – If the patient is located within a reasonable driving distance, Dr. O'Grady can bring his mobile unit and consult in person with the attending veterinarian and farrier so that they understand the therapeutic plan, take part in the treatment and are able to provide the appropriate aftercare

**TRAVEL** – If the patient is located elsewhere in the country or any part of the world, Dr. O'Grady is readily available to travel and consult with the attending veterinarian and farrier on difficult podiatry cases.

## *Other Services*

**CLINICS** – Seminars devoted to equine podiatry and therapeutic farriery are available for veterinary and farrier associations or private equine practices. These lectures can be tailored to any group depending on its interest. A wet lab can be included.

**FARRIER DAYS** – Farrier days can be held at any equine veterinary clinic. Problem foot or lameness cases are brought to the clinic on a specified day. The client's farrier accompanies the horse. Horses are evaluated and treated through the joint effort of the clinic veterinarian, the client's farrier and Dr. O'Grady. Follow-up and maintenance is performed by the attending farrier.