



PALM BEACH EQUINE CLINIC

13125 Southfields Rd
Wellington, FL 33414
Office (561) 793-1599
Fax (561) 793-2492
info@equineclinic.com
www.equineclinic.com

November 2015 e-News



Palm Beach Equine Clinic Provides Externships to Wellington High School Seniors *by Lauren Fisher, Jump Media*



Wellington High School seniors meet PBEC President Dr. Scott Swerdlin.

The veterinarians of Palm Beach Equine Clinic (PBEC) have always enjoyed contributing to supporting the local community in Wellington, FL. As a leader in equine veterinary medicine, PBEC makes it a priority to share knowledge and guide the aspiring youth.

students with an opportunity to pursue a rigorous, accelerated science program to prepare them for veterinary medicine and/or animal sciences at the college level. Equine Pre-Vet students are required to complete twenty hours of community service in an animal-based

area during each year of high school. As a senior in high school, students are also required to intern with an animal health care facility, complete research assignments in animal health care/medicine and prepare veterinary case studies.

WHS seniors that choose to pursue the Equine Pre-Vet Program have a wealth of knowledge at their fingertips with one of the world's most advanced equine medical centers just down the road. Palm Beach Equine Clinic is home to 28 world-class veterinarians who all know the process of becoming a top veterinarian within the industry. Through the program at WHS and the generosity of the veterinarians at PBEC, students in the Equine Pre-Vet Program have the unique opportunity to learn all about the profession from the very best.

Seniors in the program are given the chance to shadow veterinarians as they work at the clinic, as well as out on ambulatory calls at the farms. The program requires that each student obtain a certain number of externship hours, but PBEC allows the students to help and observe for as many hours as desired. Many students show a high level of interest and become highly involved at the clinic. PBEC tries to accommodate each student for their participation at every level.

A program is also offered for junior students at WHS who are thinking about joining the Equine Pre-Vet Program when they become seniors. Junior students are invited to the clinic to learn about various veterinary medicines and tour the facility in small groups. PBEC sets up multiple stations for them to learn about things including blood work, physical exams, reproduction, and business management.

Palm Beach Equine Clinic's Dr. Janet Greenfield-Davis is very involved with the



Dr. Janet Greenfield-Davis teaches young Wellington students.

program and enjoys teaching students of all ages. She has been involved in the local school system's career day for younger children at the elementary level, and also mentors the senior students who have already chosen the

veterinary path involved in the externship program.

"We try to play an active role in our community and we really enjoy having the kids visit the clinic," Greenfield-Davis stated. "When I went to high school, it was just general education, but now they really specialize in gearing the children towards specific programs in high school and I think that is pretty impressive. To have PBEC right around the corner is kind of handy for them and it is nice for us to have the kids come through."

"We have some students that will come in on their own outside of school and ask to volunteer," Greenfield-Davis noted. "We also have two girls that are in vet school now that started here in high school. They went to local colleges and they continued to come to our practice and participate all through college. We were able to write them recommendations for veterinary school and they both got in, so we are super proud of them. We try to do all we can for the high school. We are really happy that we can provide those opportunities for the students and see them excel."

Palm Beach Equine Clinic is proud to team with Wellington High School in this great program to help further the education of Wellington's promising young veterinarians. For more information on Palm Beach Equine Clinic, please visit www.equineclinic.com.

What's New

Palm Beach Equine Clinic Named Exclusive Florida Distributor of DJM Sole Supports *by Lauren Fisher, Jump Media*



Palm Beach Equine Clinic (PBEC) is proud to be the exclusive distributor of DJM Sole Supports for the state of Florida. DJM Sole Supports can safely be used to give instant relief for many common hoof ailments in horses. They are especially helpful for horses suffering from laminitis, punctured soles, infections, foot abscess, pre- or post-surgery support, foot and heel soreness, sole pressure related issues, barefoot trims and extra support to travel long distances. DJM Sole Supports are 100% breathable, easy to apply and provide instantaneous relief due to uniform support for the entire foot. The supports can be used in conjunction with any medicated gel to help an injury or infection. Once the pad has formed

its shape, it will not alter. The supports can be washed in warm salty water, allowed to dry naturally and reused for up to two weeks. The pads can also be left on for several days at a time. However, if there is a discharging wound, the pad should be removed, cleaned thoroughly and reapplied every 24 hours.

The DJM Sole Support engineering was developed by farrier David Mangan, who now solely devotes his time and knowledge into designing innovative products for horses. The Sole Support is unique and superior to other products due to its patented composition. When a horse's foot is sore and inflamed, the sensitive laminae swells, causing pain from any load or movement. The DJM Sole Support aids in reducing the sole's movement, evenly distributes the pressure and minimizes the downward movement of the sole from loading.

Proper application of a DJM Sole Support will give rapid relief to the horse in a majority of cases. In the case of Laminitic horses, DJM Sole Supports can provide relief by supporting the sole to reduce the pull of sensitive inflammatory tissues (Laminae) as it separates from the hoof wall. Sole Supports can also offer full protection and comfort while travelling long distances by trailer or plane. Horses that are preparing or recovering

from surgical procedures can benefit from the use of Sole Supports to reduce the loading on supporting limbs and stabilize the injured leg. In cases where horses suffer from corns or stone bruises, the Sole Support can reduce inflammation, provide protection and comfort with, or without, a shoe. The supports will also give instant relief to horses that are sensitive to shoeing and typically require a few days to recover. The sole supports are an excellent, clean alternative to "hoof packing" after a hard day's work. Additionally, for horses that have lost a shoe and rely heavily on those shoes for soundness, the Sole Support may be used to protect the foot while waiting for the farrier to arrive.

DJM Sole Support pads are available in three sizes to fit most horses. If the pad is larger than the foot, it is safe to allow excess to cover the heels and or provide a rolled toe. The support pads are available in either "soft" or "firm" types, with the softer compound more suitable for the very tender footed horse.

Always on the forefront of medical advances, Palm Beach Equine Clinic is proud to distribute DJM Sole Supports in Florida. For more information, please visit www.djmsperformance.com/products/sole-support.html or call the experts at Palm Beach Equine Clinic at 561-793-1599.

Palm Beach Equine Clinic Returns as Official Veterinarian of the 2016 WEF and AGDF Winter Circuits *by Lauren Fisher, Jump Media*



Palm Beach Equine Clinic (PBEC) proudly serves as the official veterinarians of the world-renowned Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF) and Adequan® Global Dressage Festival (AGDF) in Wellington, FL. Adjacent to the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center in the heart of Wellington, PBEC's state-of-the-art facilities and world-class team of 28 veterinarians are there for every equestrian's needs throughout the WEF and AGDF circuits. PBEC is proud to work for its multi-discipline clientele with the aid of the most advanced technologies and medical treatments available.

"Wellington is a fabulous place, and I have watched the growth of WEF as well as AGDF over the years, and it has been exponential," said Dr.

Scott Swerdlin, President of Palm Beach Equine Clinic. "For us to be part of that growth, and part of the explosion of the sport horse industry here in Wellington is a real honor. We want to give back to the community, as well as contribute to all of the great things that Mark Bellissimo has done for the horse show world."

"I love to see the good horses return, and every year it seems like better and better horses are competing from all over the world," Swerdlin added. "The quality of horses and the quality of competition always continues to improve. To watch these fabulous horse and rider combinations in all of these different disciplines is such a treat."

With top horses and riders from around the world spending their winters in Wellington, PBEC is proud to have veterinarians on the team that represent many different countries. PBEC currently employs veterinarians from Argentina, Uruguay, and Colombia. It is a privilege for the team at PBEC to work together with many of the best veterinarians from all over the world as they travel to Wellington with their clients.

Palm Beach Equine Clinic features its full-service surgical center and intensive care hospital located only minutes from the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center show grounds. Board certified surgeons, primary care veterinarians and hospital technicians are

scheduled for emergency on call assistance 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to treat, monitor and care for critical cases. With exceptional veterinarians and a staff of highly trained hospital technicians, PBEC's surgical suite and staff are prepared to handle all kinds of emergencies, day and night.

The Palm Beach Equine Clinic facility houses the most advanced imaging technologies available, including a standing Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Nuclear Scintigraphy (Bone Scan), Ultrasonography, Digital Radiography and Endoscopy. PBEC is unique in that a Board Certified Radiologist is on site to interpret images and assist with diagnosis for rapid results. PBEC's on-site, full-service laboratory equipped with hematology, chemistry, and microbiology equipment provides veterinarians with the ability to quickly evaluate blood tests for critical cases.

The newest addition this year for PBEC is the Annex Veterinary Office located on the show grounds at the Winter Equestrian Festival. The wooden barn located at the beginning of the north grounds entrance is now an office space, pharmacy for supplies and medication pick up, and examination areas.

For more information on the facility or in case of an emergency, please call (561) 793-1599 to contact an on-call veterinarian.

Q&A

Learn More About PBEC Staff Surgeon Dr. Weston Davis *by Lauren Fisher, Jump Media*

Dr. Davis is a second-generation veterinarian from South Florida. His father is recently retired from veterinary medicine and his family raises beef cattle in Clewiston, FL. Dr. Davis graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Florida College Of Veterinary Medicine in 2008. He was awarded the Barbaro Gulfstream Scholarship (a veterinary scholarship named in honor of the amazing Barbaro), the Calder Race Course Scholarship, and the Student Award for Excellence in Large Animal Surgery.

After graduation, Dr. Davis completed his

internship in Sports Medicine and Surgery at Oakridge Equine Hospital, followed by a residency in Equine Surgery at North Carolina State University. In 2012, he became board certified in Large Animal Surgery by the American College of Veterinary Surgeons. Before joining Palm Beach Equine Clinic, Dr. Davis spent 1.5 years as a staff surgeon at a private practice referral center in Texas. He has authored and co-authored publications on topics ranging from colic surgery to advanced imaging and novel surgical techniques. In 2014, he was awarded the

BEVA Trust Peter Rossdale EVJ Open Award for a research publication on return to performance following colic surgery. He has spoken at several national and state meetings.

Dr. Davis is an avid sportsman himself, and his hobbies include fishing, hunting, waterskiing and almost any outdoor activity.

Will you tell us more about your background with horses growing up?

I started riding horses when I was so young I can't remember. We had some amazingly kind





horses that packed us around and took care of us (and a couple that didn't). Riding as a child was mostly business - for the purpose of working cows. Somewhere around 14, I began team roping for pleasure and competition. I roped throughout college, but lost the required free time when I began practicing veterinary medicine. I'll probably get after it again when I am retired and much too old to be doing that sort of thing!

When and why did you decide to become a veterinarian and why did you choose to pursue a career as a surgeon?

I decided to be a veterinarian very early in life. I had a father and uncle who were both successful and happy veterinarians whom I looked up to, so it was a logical path to follow. The surgical interests started as a kid watching my father do surgery, something I always thought was amazing and he was very skilled at. My decision to pursue the surgical avenue came during vet school when I realized that I wanted to specialize and knew surgery was my passion.

What is the best advice that your father has given you as a veterinarian?

My father is a man of few words. However, by

watching him, I learned one of the biggest life lessons, which is to be calm and content with your career and your life.

What do you enjoy about speaking publicly and sharing your knowledge?

I think mentoring, sharing knowledge and teaching the hands-on skills to the next generation of veterinarians is one of the most fun and rewarding parts of my job. Observing a student as content and excelling in their career with a skill set that you contributed to, even in a small way, is a beautiful thing.

What is the most interesting or rewarding surgical case you have worked on?

Although minimally invasive arthroscopic type surgeries are my favorite to perform, I think colic surgeries are one of the most rewarding. They are often difficult surgeries and inevitably in the middle of the night, but you take a horse who would most certainly die without you, and save a life. Helping a horse who was in excruciating pain or has a life-threatening devitalized piece of intestine recover back to feeling comfortable and eating in their stall the next day is about as good as it gets.

If you were not a vet, what would you be doing?

Living in a van, down by the river...Ugh. I don't have any idea.

What are your goals for your career now?

My goal is to expand the surgical and outpatient sports medicine referrals at PBEC. I am currently the coordinator for the intern and resident program. I plan to expand and improve on the quality of these mentoring programs within the industry. I am also working on the development and description of some novel minimally invasive surgical techniques. I aim to continue authoring 1-2 publications annually in the refereed equine literature.

When not roping, fishing, hunting or waterskiing, what other things do you do with your free time?

Most of my non-equine time lately has been devoted to some real-estate interests and house renovations. I am also a big reader.