

Martin D. Kenny C.J.F. R.J.F. H.R.S.



**Proudly Serving the needs of Central NC, VA and Southeast FL
equines; and their owners and trainers!**

**The Hoof Redevelopment Center
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Here you will find testimonies of owners who have enjoyed renewed soundness and performance with their horse.

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I have used Martin's farrier services for the better part of the last twenty years. He has worked on horses for me in four different states as I have moved around. In 2003 my FEI level competition horse was diagnosed through an MRI with severe inflammation of the Navicular bursa in both front feet. He was given a 60% chance of returning to work. I sought Martin's help in addressing this challenge and am happy to report that after 90 days of lay-up and a course of Tildren coupled with Martin's shoeing my horse made a full recovery and returned to the show ring.
Beth D; Southern Pines, NC

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I have known Mr. Kenny for about 18 years. After working with 4 or 5 other farriers who were unable to help my horse, friends recommended Mr. Kenny. My friends said "He really knows what he is doing". He worked on my beloved horse for about 15 years until my horse passed away at age 27 years.

Martin began working on my horse and I knew he and I would be a team for as long as I had horses because he could tell what had already been tried and why it would not work and provided a course of action. As everyone knows with horses, unforeseen things can happen and Martin came up with new and different approaches. As a result my horse was never lame and he got better over the years and visiting Veterinarians to my farm for routine visits remarked to me that my horses' feet looked great and admired the special attention Martin gives his work.

Martin researches his work like no other. He is truly dedicated to his work and I am thankful he was recommended to me because I had been told by more than one veterinarian that my horse had Navicular syndrome and there really was not much that could be done.

Martin is currently working with my two new horses. They are lucky. I am lucky!

Connie M.

Zebulon, NC

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For years, I knew things weren't right with my horse's hooves. I run a small Eventing Barn and I have trail horses to Preliminary horses here at the barn. Yet, they all had the same problems most do, long toes, no heels, lost shoes, cracking walls...the list goes on and on. I had an old Hanoverian that someone had given me and he had the worst case of contracted heels I had ever seen in my 30 years of horses and for 9 months we tried everything.

Then I heard Martin speak about *Barefoot Shoeing* and I was intrigued, but still a little skeptical that anyone could fix this poor horse. I asked Martin to shoe him and if he could make the horse better in 6 months, he could do my whole barn. Nothing like a little challenge right? Well, Martin had the job in two months and that horse and all my others have never gone better. No hock and stifle issues, stronger backs, no lost shoes, again, the list goes on and on. I can't thank him enough for all the good he has done for mine and my boarders' beloved horses! **Becky G. Charlottesville, VA**

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Martin~

Thank you so much for all your help with my horse, *More About Me*. After spending thousands of dollars on MRI's, x-rays, ultra sounds, and different opinions, it was you who got my horse sound within 30 days. Your evaluation of his feet was spot on. By the second shoeing, he was as good as new. When I got him back he was amazing and began winning his hack classes once again. I am very grateful that you went out of your way to follow up and take the time to consult with my local blacksmith. I really appreciate all the time you take to explain things in "layman's terms". It's great to see someone take so much pride in their work. Now, if you would only move to Pennsylvania. **Bill R. www.bydesignfarm.com**

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Pam M. of Southern Pines, NC writes:

In the 7 years that Martin has been shoeing for me, he has improved the feet of every one of my horses. From my Amateur Hunter who went from a 7 mover to a horse who won hacks in Florida, to a crippled yearling who had foundered, both sinking and rotating. After 2 years of careful, analytical shoeing, that little guy was well enough to start life under saddle. This was beyond my wildest dreams for him!

For years, all five of my horses have had wonderful feet with a solid base to stand on, with no under slung or contracted heels, no long toe, no flares on the sides or bills on the front. And no cracks, ever, thanks to Martin's ability to perfectly balance a hoof so a horse is standing square on it with no stress points.

No hoof, no horse -- and with Martin on my team, I have a lot of sound horses with great feet. Thank you, Martin!

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Martin is an AMAZING Farrier! He is truly "all about the horse". He explains everything he does in a professional and thorough fashion and answers all questions as he thoughtfully analyzes the various choices. Most importantly, he never rushes, but takes his time to address all of the issues, pros and cons of each, in order to determine the best choice to optimize the desired outcome for the horse. He is an innovator and progressive thinker when it comes to his profession and that is refreshing compared to people that just shoe horses "the old fashion way".

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I have been using Martin as my farrier for three years, first in North Carolina when my young Quarter horse was having hoof problems due to another farrier. Martin took the time to review x-rays of my horses' hoofs in order to pinpoint issues and developed a plan to get her feet healthy again. Since then I have moved to Florida and I am so thankful that Martin has other clients in my area, so my horse can still maintain the highest level of hoof care. I would highly recommend Martin!

Jessica W. –
Boca Raton, FL

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"My Appaloosa mare sustained a stifle injury nearly two years ago. I tried injections, chiropractic care, rest, rehab and supplements. They all helped, but she wasn't able to stay sound until Martin began shoeing her. After the first shoeing she showed remarkable improvement. The process is ongoing but, for the first time in over a year, I'm 'not' considering retirement for my friend. Instead, I just took her to a two day natural horsemanship clinic. Thanks, Martin!"

Sue Walker & Lacyface

Kelley & Michael V.: Carthage, NC
Write:

Problem stifles in Walkers.....

I have a 5 yr old walking horse that we have raised from birth that, quite frankly, had a troubled beginning. This horse was undernourished at birth, was a very typical walker with the long legs and pasterns that were set, literally, at a 90 degree angle. She couldn't stand on her own without help from myself or my husband. As a result, she did not get enough colostrum and ultimately had to spend the first week of life at the local vet for care. As a result, foot and stifle issues have developed into a concern for me. I consider myself a responsible, intelligent horse owner with maintaining a healthy balance of feed and hoof care for both of our horses; however, increased "catching" of my horse's stifles and "seedy" toe with my 5 yr old have increased my concerns. I have researched treatments such as supplements and injections have discussed my concerns with my vet and had even talked with my farrier, one that I had used for the past 3-4 years. The advice given to me was exercising up and down hills, to develop the muscle around the stifle, possible surgery, glucosamine supplements, injections, etc. Then I met Martin Kenny from the Hoof Center.

I actually moved next door to Martin about 3 summers ago. I became good friends with both he and his wife Diane. We have talked many times about horses and have even joked about how peculiar I am about my horses' feet and how they are trimmed and shod.

As a result of our friendship, we were both very hesitant about his doing any work on my horses; however, due to the increased "catching" of my 5 yr old's stifles, I put my personal quirks aside and asked him to take a look, that was 4 weeks ago on Saturday, May 14, 2011. Martin trimmed and shod both my 5 yr old and my 4 yr old walking horses for the first time.

I learned a great deal on that day. I learned that neither horse had adequate concavity in any of their feet, basically, "flat feet". Martin also took the time to explain the reason for the hoof cracking, quarter cracking, and flaring, how it got there and why I was continuing to have the problem. I learned that my 4 yr old was having a moderate problem with hoof wall separation, a problem that I was completely unaware of and a problem that can be very serious if unchecked. Due to this horse having white feet we had been aware of "bruising" on the outer hoof wall, we could see it, but had been told that she had hit her foot and had just some minor bruising. THIS IS NOT TRUE, if there are no rocks or other debris in your pasture and you have bruising on the exterior hoof, please believe me, this is a far more serious problem than you realize.

After all was said and done, on Sunday, my husband and I went riding @ Uwharrie State Park. Oh boy, was that a ride. My 5 yr, honestly, for the first time, actually wanted to go riding. My arms were so sore the next day from keeping her in check. For 5 hrs this horse eagerly went up and down, and up and down, the hills. She was so comfortable in her movements, not for me but for her. She had more head bobbing and she was much more loose in the hip for a further reach up underneath.

On Sunday, June 12, 2011 we had a 2nd trimming and shoeing. In just 4 weeks, there has been some increase in concavity of their feet, NO flaring of any of the feet, and most importantly, there was no teeth gritting “popping” of my 5 yr old’s stifles. Martin did say that she was still a little loose, but she was not catching and sticking at all.

We still have some work to do. Hoof care is an ongoing process, maintenance basically. You can’t just fix your problem today or in my case just 4 weeks and then go back to what you were doing, why would you want to.
