

Green Chimneys

Brewster, New York State 10509, USA

“Learning through Experiencing”

2012

Green Chimneys was founded 67 years ago in 1948 by **Dr. Samuel B. Ross Jnr.**, more commonly known as ‘Rollo’, who had a simple dream all those years ago and today **Green Chimneys**, named after the colours of the farms’ chimneys, is an internationally renowned farm, home and school. It is recognised for its innovative, extraordinary, thoughtful caring ways that connect all who enter through the gates, from the children it nurtures, the adults that interact with the children and its animals, and to those animals also needing love, care and healing.

Every day, you can witness the communication and interaction with the various animals on the farm, from domestic animals, farm livestock and wildlife, some in need of rehabilitation and care, to others who cannot be released and live permanently at Green Chimneys. This is truly Animal Assisted Therapy at its best.

To quote **Michael Kaufmann**, current Farm Manager at Green Chimneys;

“At Green Chimneys our strength is to live with animals - to be immersed in an environment where they are very much part of every day life. It is less about scheduling a “session” for a child with a therapist and animal (though we do that as well) and more about modeling a lifestyle that appreciates, respects and includes all living beings.

At Green Chimneys we share life with each other, with animals and we try to help where we can. That is a really simple lesson modeled first by our founder **Dr. Samuel Ross** and his wife **Myra**.

It is one the students learn quite naturally. And in the process they often discover that they themselves have so much to offer. They learn how good it feels to care for others. They discover their own power to make a difference - and that they have choices to make in life. It's not about being perfect - everyone has challenges - but about trying, about caring and about seeing the value in others. Such vague concepts are hard to put into words during a short campus tour - when someone wants to see "Animal Assisted Therapy" in action right then and there.

But intuitive people of all ages who come here and stay a while, who watch and listen and who tap into the activities that include, animals, plants and nature, totally get it."

www.greenchimneys.org

