

September 2016

The Society Pages

Maine State Society for the
Protection of Animals



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The Neglected Nine

Younger, older, mares and geldings alike, these nine Maine horses, near death, were brought to the River Road farm following intervention by Maine's Animal Welfare Program. While the legal matter wends its way through the system, the horses are receiving superior care at MSSPA. "Although it will require a great many resources, these poor creatures will receive everything they need," said Marilyn Goodreau, Society President. Currently in quarantine from the other equine residents, the starved horses are being treated for a variety of health problems, including an infestation of lice. Meris J. Bickford, Society CEO said, "Caring for horses like these nine is the mission here. Thankfully, donors understand it is an expensive process to re-feed and rehabilitate neglected horses." Liam Hughes, Director of Maine's Animal Welfare Program said, "Any animal removed from its owner by the state may be in poor condition. The Society provides these neglected animals with the specialized care they need to thrive."



The Society Takes to TV

The Society has partnered with Up County Productions in support of "Growing Home - The American Farmer, Season One." Up Country Productions has created a 13 episode docu-series which provides an inside look and understanding of our veterans working in Maine's

food ecosystem and equine industry. Beginning late fall of 2016, the series will air on NBC throughout Maine and Southern New Hampshire on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. The show will feature stories about military veterans who have been honorably discharged and are now working in the agricultural or equine industries. Each week, the Society will offer educational tips to enhance your horse experience. Stay tuned via the MSSPA Facebook page and website, www.MSSPA.org, for additional details about Growing Home – The American Farmer, Season One.



Check out the **NEW MSSPA.org!**



E is for Eventful

Upcoming Events

MSSPA Volunteer Appreciation Picnic Thursday, September 15

Rain Date:

Thursday, September 22

Honoring the invaluable work of our volunteers.

Christmas Open House for the Horses

Sunday, December 4

Rain Date:

Sunday, December 11

A quintessential Maine holiday event!

**Visit the MSSPA farm
at 279 River Road
in Windham daily
from 1-4pm!**



Tom's of Maine

(above) Many thanks to George Day, a long-time employee at Tom's of Maine, who gave the Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals a leg up! George won a \$5,000 prize during a contest at work and donated it to the Society horses. He presented the check to Barn Manager, Jeff Greenleaf, at the 2016 Maine Horse Jubilee.



Maine Horse Jubilee

The Maine Horse Jubilee, held on April 24th, was an exposition of many aspects of horse appreciation and responsible horse keeping. During the family-friendly, free and open to the public event, there were several ongoing demonstrations including farrier Corey Austin trimming MSSPA horses, equine veterinarian Dr. Rachel Flaherty doing a show and tell on equine

dentistry, and horse trainer Debbie Little performing groundwork with Rita, an MSSPA rescue horse. In addition, the Jubilee featured an equine photographer, Peter Armstrong of New Equine Photography, and author Vince Bruni displaying his work while signing posters and promoting his book "TearDrop Garden" released that day. Also on-site was display of technical emergency equipment needed to rescue large animals from hazards or accidents. A lively crew of enthusiastic volunteers staffed the official registration table, the donation stall, and the kids' stall where colorful equine art was created to help decorate the barn. The pleasant weather allowed the hundreds of visitors to comfortably stroll about the farm observing horses in paddocks and pastures and hanging out with MSSPA mascot, Baxter. The event was free and took place at the MSSPA farm at 279 River Road in Windham, Maine. Hundreds attended the event and are responsible for helping to raise \$25,127 in donations that day to support MSSPA horses.

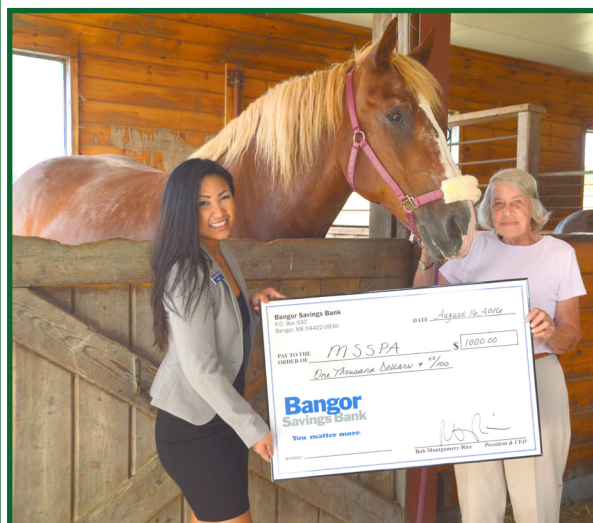


Horses Matter More

Thank you to all who voted in Bangor Savings Bank's 2016 Community Matters More contest. Because you voted, we did it again! \$1,000 from the Bangor Savings Bank will buy 200 bales of hay or 100 bags of grain or 22 hoof trims – in short, it is a fabulous prize. The Society could win a \$5,000 prize in the BSB 2017 contest; 1,000 bales of hay, 500 bags of grain or 110 hoof trims! With your help, we can do it. Mark your calendars now for late February 2017 and get ready to vote again in the

upcoming contest. And please be sure to ask all your friends and family to do the same; and ask them to remind other friends and family as well. No political candidates are involved! People are simply voting to support New England's largest horse shelter. Follow the Society on Facebook and we will let you know when the voting begins. Please be part of our community and your vote will matter to Maine horses.

Amberlynn Esperanza, BSB Customer Service Specialist with Diana and Marilyn



H is for Horses

Dear Friends,

Love, health, material wealth – these are gifts that so many of us are given and too many of us do not acknowledge. Here at New England's largest horse shelter we are grateful for the horses we are blessed to receive as well as the many people who help make it possible for the horses to be rehabilitated and rehomed. Thank you to each person who volunteers their time to help clean the barns, stack the hay, and groom the horses. Thank you to those who so generously donate money, stock, real estate, and other items of value. Thank you to all who follow the doings of the Society and its animals on traditional and social media.

The Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals has been serving horses and other Maine animals for 144 years. As we move forward into a new era of community collaborations and capital improvements, we also continue our history of meeting our mission through the generosity of so many of you. On behalf of the animals, volunteers, board of directors, and staff: thank you to everyone who supports this life-saving organization. I am grateful for each gift given and each person who gives it. *Fondly, Marilyn L. Goodreau, President*



Meet Ivy!

She was a bit of a calamity when she stepped down from the humane agent's trailer late last winter – thin, filthy, full of parasites, and hooves that were long and abscessed. Ivy is a poster girl for the progress that can be made with nearly any horse who receives nutritious feed, good medical care, and attention from the skilled stablehands at River Road Farm. Ivy arrived with another loud Appaloosa who has fully recovered and is in the process of being adopted. Both young mares had suffered substantial neglect and required special care to get them on the road to recovery. They are current examples of how donor dollars support the work at New England's largest horse shelter. Ivy is available for adoption and can be viewed in person at our farm or on our website at www.msspa.org.

(Ivy, upon arrival and Ivy with MSSPA staffer, Cassie)



Available To Adopt

Here are just a few of our horses available for adoption. Visit our website for a complete up-to-date listing.



Tess: 18yo, Standard-bred, Mare, 14.3hh, Rides, Drives



Noel: 14yo, Quarter-horse, Mare, 15hh



Rain: 25yo, Quarter-horse, Mare



Roger: 25yo, Shetland Pony, Gelding

Thank You for Your Support

The Society is entirely funded by membership dues, donations, bequests, grants, and fund-raising activities. It receives no state or government funding. The Society does not charge for its services. It provides more than one million dollars in services annually to Maine taxpayers and salvation to abused animals.

Maine State Society
for the Protection
of Animals
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Thank you – it just couldn't have been accomplished without you. 2016 Buy a Bale is on the books for the astounding total of \$102,093 and the hay in our barns is right up to the eaves! Thanks to so many donations, horses at the Society will have high-quality hay to eat throughout the upcoming year, right through the long Maine winter.



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The Society could not operate without the contributions of so many generous people who care about these special animals; each gift is important and valued. In recognition of her kindness and significant support, in particular we thank Betty Rowe. Together with her husband David, she was a major donor to Buy a Bale 2016 and also made it possible to provide shelter for an additional nine starved horses from a recent state seizure. 