Meet the MSSPA Mitchell Scholars

Meet Maine students Joey Buzzell and Haley DaGraca, pre-veterinary students who will serve as interns for the MSSPA through the Mitchell Scholars program in summer 2017. This is a new initiative for the MSSPA. Joey will be a junior at Boston University and Haley a junior at St. Joseph’s College. From mid June to mid August, they will learn many aspects of routine and medical equine care from Dr. Jefferson, who serves on the Society’s board of directors. They will also have opportunities to observe from Dr. Rachel Flaherty who cares for many of the MSSPA horses. Society Barn Manager Jeff Greenleaf will also provide an education regarding equine barn management. In addition, these successful college students will have the option to work in the organization’s office; the goal is that they learn about all aspects of operating a large nonprofit horse rescue. This is a wonderful learning opportunity for Joey and Haley and for the Society.

The Mitchell Institute, founded in 1995 under the auspices of Senator George J. Mitchell, has awarded Maine students more than 2,500 college scholarships totaling over 13 million dollars. Its mission is to insure that many more Maine high school students can attend college; the criteria are academic potential, community impact, and financial need.

Senator Mitchell visited the MSSPA in April and expressed great enthusiasm for the mission of the organization and its facilities.

Congratulations to Haley and Joey, and we look forward to working with them.
E is for Eventful

Upcoming Events
Christmas Open House for the Horses
Sunday, December 3
Rain Date: Sunday, December 10
A quintessential Maine holiday event!

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

MSSPA Wins $5,000
The Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals enthusiastically thanks everyone who voted for the horses in the Bangor Savings Bank Foundation’s Community Matters $100,000 giveaway to Maine non-profit organizations! When Bangor Savings Bank counted up the ballots and announced the 2017 award winning non-profits, the animals at the River Road farm, South Windham farm received enough votes to win $5,000! That money will help pay for 1,000 bales of hay or 625 bags of grain or dozens of hoof trims!

It’s Been Busy!

December of 2016 brought an increasingly popular family tradition to the River Road farm - Christmas Open House for the Horses filled the big barn with guests to celebrate the season. As always, plenty of festive fun was had from the face painting in the kids’ stall to the draft horse teams providing a frosty trip around the farm.

In March we packed the house at Smitty’s Cinema in Windham for a special charity screening of “Harry and Snowman.” More than 200 Society supporters joined us for an afternoon of sharing horse memories and celebrating the rescue horse who became known as the $80.00 Champion.

In December of 2016 brought an increasingly popular family tradition to the River Road farm - Christmas Open House for the Horses filled the big barn with guests to celebrate the season. As always, plenty of festive fun was had from the face painting in the kids’ stall to the draft horse teams providing a frosty trip around the farm.

April is Volunteer Appreciation month and the Society loves those who volunteer to help the horses. During April we also joined other horse lovers across the land celebrating National Help a Horse Day by hosting the third annual Maine Horse Jubilee. Special guests at this year’s Jubilee included Jazz, one of the Neglected Nine who has gone on to a new career at September Farm Polo. Helen Peppe and her amazing minis also performed to the delight of Jubilee visitors.

The 279 River Road farm is open to public visitors every day – plan a picnic or a hike at the Society’s spectacular 124 acre property – just a short drive from Maine’s urban centers!
Ivy Shows Her Stuff
On April 30th, MSSPA Associate Barn Manager, Megan and Ivy – currently available for adoption – coached by MSSPA volunteer Sara Whelan, left the farm and headed west to Hollis for the 12th Annual ASAM Longhorn Supply Company Horse Show. Congrats to all three for success in a first-in-the-history-of the Society, bringing home two ribbons. If Appys make you happy, Ivy could be just the girl for you.

Please complete a preliminary adoption application online at MSSPA.org today.

Neglected Nine and Adoption Update
A is for adoption and also for always – it is always the best part of the horse rescue equation when the right home and the right horse come together. Our adoption committee has been busy and here are a few of the success stories they want to share: Clockwise, Joker of the Neglected Nine kissing his new herdmate; Purdy of the Neglected Nine before rehabilitation; and next, Purdy after. Purdy is currently available for adoption. Smokey, of the Neglected Nine, at his new home saddled to ride; Willow the Appaloosa ready to ride; and the carriage driving queen Tess with her new herd, munching on fall grass.

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

Ivy, Appaloosa Mare
Shocker, QH Mare
Orla, Saddlebred Mare
Destiny, QH Mare
A Gift from Mary Reali
In April, the MSSPA received an extraordinarily generous bequest from Mary M. Reali of Portland, Maine. Mrs. Reali died on July 31, 2016 at the age of 88. A Portland native and registered nurse, Mary worked at Maine Medical Center for 44 years. She is survived by her niece Lisa McLaughlin, Lisa’s husband Mark and their daughter. The family came to the MSSPA in April to present the very generous check from Mary, and told some stories about her. She loved to feed the squirrels, and was in the habit of ordering many cases of unsalted peanuts for them. She enjoyed dancing, arranging flowers and travel. The Society extends its condolences to Mary’s family for their loss. We are extremely grateful for her significant gift, which will go a long way to support our mission to rescue and rehabilitate horses in need.

Volunteer Thanks
The MSSPA thanks all its generous and hard-working volunteers – without your incredible devotion to the animals, it wouldn’t be possible to successfully operate New England’s premier horse shelter. From those who come once a year to those who are at the farm nearly every day, doing the work of stall mucking to paddock picking, weeding the flower beds to washing buckets, grooming the horses to groundwork and everything in between, Society volunteers make all the difference.

The family of Mary Reali at MSSPA’s River Road Farm with Assistant CEO, Kathy Woodbrey

The Society is entirely funded by donations, bequests, grants, and fundraising 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
P.O. Box 10
South Windham, ME
04082-0010
207-892-3040

Watch for Buy A Bale on the Time & Temperature Building beginning June 9 - Thank you to the Law Offices of Joe Bornstein.

Volunteer Thanks
The MSSPA thanks all its generous and hard-working volunteers – without your incredible devotion to the animals, it wouldn’t be possible to successfully operate New England’s premier horse shelter. From those who come once a year to those who are at the farm nearly every day, doing the work of stall mucking to paddock picking, weeding the flower beds to washing buckets, grooming the horses to groundwork and everything in between, Society volunteers make all the difference.

Society volunteers Libby, Sara and Anastasia taking a break from their mucking duties for a photo opportunity.