

June  
2019

# The Society Pages

Maine State Society for the  
Protection of Animals

## MSSPA

*A nonprofit organization  
founded in 1872*



### Directors:

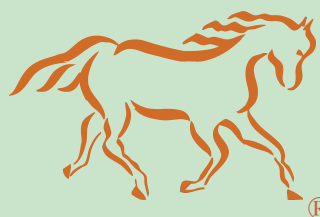
Lisa Brown  
The Honorable Bill Diamond  
Marilyn L. Goodreau  
Chairwoman Emeritus  
David Jefferson, DVM  
The Honorable Sawin Millett  
Nancy Mills  
Sonya Nadeau  
Andrew Robinson  
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Christopher Rogers  
Danny Shaw  
Jane Sheehan  
Roger Timmons  
John Trafton  
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Meris J. Bickford, Esq.  
Vice President  
Chief Executive Officer  
Katherine Woodbrey  
Secretary  
Assistant CEO  
The Honorable Bill Diamond  
Treasurer  
Debbie Valenti  
Assistant Treasurer

### Of Counsel:

Harold C. Pachios, Esq.



## Making a Difference in Maine

Congratulations to Meris J. Bickford, CEO of the Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals. This year, Maine Magazine recognized Meris as one of 50 Mainers who have made significant contributions to our state. Pictured with Belle, the mare she adopted from the Society, Meris has found her place in the world. Read about Meris and her work with MSSPA, along with profiles of 49 other Mainers, in the July issue of Maine Magazine.



Meris J. Bickford and Belle

## Second Chances for Rescued Horses and Incarcerated Volunteers



SMWRC volunteer with MSSPA horses Jafar and Bodie

The MSSPA's equine assisted learning program gives incarcerated women from the Southern Maine Women's Re-entry Center and recovering horses an opportunity to learn from one another. The innovative

program is designed to give the SMWRC residents the skills and experience they need to transition from state correctional facilities into their home communities. The self-confidence and empathy they gain from working with the rescued horses alongside Society staff and community volunteers supports successful reintegration.

An average of 50 women participate in the program each year and, on any given day, there can be as many as eight volunteers from the SMWRC at the horse shelter, helping to ensure that all tasks are completed, including cleaning stalls and grooming horses.

To learn more about this program and the second chances it offers to the horses and the SMWRC residents, visit the following websites:

- <https://bit.ly/2WfhZIN>  
(by Susan Sharon of MainePublic)
- <https://bit.ly/310kixY>  
(by Peggy Keyser of 207)



SMWRC volunteer with  
Society horse Tavish

Check us out at [www.msspa.org](http://www.msspa.org) and find us on Facebook and Instagram



# Find Your Right Horse

*Here is a sampling of the MSSPA horses available for adoption. Visit our website for a complete listing.*



**Jenko, QH Gelding**



**Dusty, QH Gelding**



**Oakley, Morgan/  
Welsh Pony Gelding**



**Buck, QH Gelding**



**Tavish, Welsh Cob  
Gelding**



**Rita, Arabian Mare**



(left) Violet when she arrived at the MSSPA  
(right) Violet after rehabilitation

## Adopt from MSSPA

Despite their heartbreaking appearance, horses like Violet, pictured above, are the lucky ones – rescued from grim circumstances and then rehabilitated to their best potential at the Society.

Perhaps Violet is your right horse? When she arrived in 2016, she was badly neglected, extremely thin, had overgrown hooves, and was infested with intestinal parasites. Due to issues stemming from that neglect, Violet is not suitable for riding. If your ideal horse is an athletic one who enjoys groundwork, Violet may be the right horse for you.

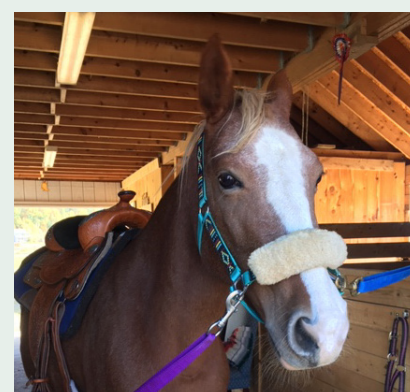


*See the many horses available for adoption at the River Road farm or go online and complete a preliminary adoption application.*

**Open to the public daily 1 pm to 4 pm**



Mia goes home with MSSPA volunteers  
Helen and Sparky  
*Adopted December 2018*



Penny at her new home  
*Adopted October 2018*



Walker (right) settling into his new home  
*Adopted May 2019*



Shane ready to go home with his new family  
*Adopted April 2019*

***To see all recently adopted horses, visit [msspa.org/adoption-success](http://msspa.org/adoption-success)***



## The Lawrence J. Keddy and Marilyn L. Goodreau Equine Rehabilitation Facility

After years of planning and months of construction, MSSPA proudly presented the completed equine training and rehabilitation facility at its Welcome Weekend celebration in October 2018. Since then, thousands of visitors, including many first-time guests and new supporters, have toured the horse shelter. MSSPA has hosted dozens of birthday parties, club meetings, and community groups in our spectacular new space.

The equine training arena includes a vet exam and wash stall, tack room, and on-deck stall. The Keddy-Goodreau arena facilitates the safe training and handling of MSSPA horses year-round.



The new landscape here at New England's premier horse shelter.

## Community Matters More



MSSPA horse Dusty and staffer Madison Donahue receive a coveted Bangor Savings Bank Foundation grant from BSB's Tricia Duchesneau.

Thank you to everyone who voted in the 2019 Community Matters More contest and helped the horses win \$1,000.

## We're Foal of Joy

Help MSSPA welcome the newest member of the herd –

### Daphne's colt!

Daphne, a sadly neglected young mare, was rescued with three other horses by an animal control officer in Southern Maine in July 2018. She was feral, ill from a heavy parasite load, infested with lice, and in need of dental and hoof care. She couldn't be easily caught or touched. She was also suffering from a dangerous, painful abdominal hernia. Daphne underwent surgery, requiring general anesthesia; only afterward was pregnancy suspected.

Blood testing confirmed the young mare was in foal. Delivery date? Due to hormonal fluctuation, it was anyone's guess. Then . . .

MSSPA staff welcomed this brown-eyed, bay baby boy to the world at 8:52 pm on Friday, March 1, 2019. At 10 hands high and just about 100 lbs, Windy River is the first foal born at the Society's River Road farm in Windham in over 20 years.



After a naming contest, which produced 175 name suggestions, and thorough consideration by the MSSPA Board, the foal's name was revealed.

**Meet Windy River**

## Mother's Day Reception



More than 150 visitors came to the farm to celebrate Mother's Day with Daphne, Windy River, and the MSSPA.

A very special thank you to those visitors and to a posse of pint-sized bakers, whose bake sale table at the event raised almost \$300 for Maine's rescued horses!

# Helping Hooves

## Session 1:

Monday, 7/15 to Friday, 7/19; designed for students entering 5th or 6th grade

## Session 2:

Monday, 7/29 to Friday, 8/2; designed for students entering 7th or 8th grade

*FMI, visit*

*[msspa.org/helping-hooves](http://msspa.org/helping-hooves)*

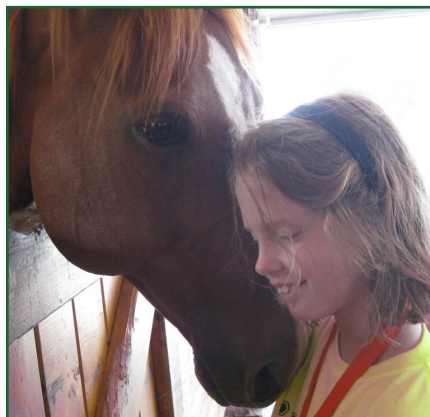
## Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals

P.O. Box 10  
South Windham, ME  
04082-0010

**Buy  
-A-  
Bale**



## MSSPA's first ever humane education summer camps



Each day there will be hands-on, fun experiences and educational activities aimed at engaging young horse lovers. Through interactive exercises and featured guest presenters, Helping Hooves campers will have the opportunity to explore animal-related careers, learn about animal welfare issues, and spend time with our rescued horses.

Please note that this is not a riding camp; campers may have direct interaction with the horses, including grooming, but riding will not be offered.

## Partnering with you to help feed rescued horses

Eddie, the chestnut roan gelding, and his friends at the MSSPA send out a special thanks to our local school children and their families. The 2nd graders of the Windham Primary School and Edna Libby School kindergartners raised an amazing \$3,377. That will buy 675 bales of hay for the horses at the shelter. Eddie and the Society herd are closer than ever to meeting this year's Buy-A-Bale goal of \$100,000. Thank you to everyone who has already donated to this year's Buy-A-Bale campaign.

*Don't miss your chance to help the horses. Make your 2019 Buy-A-Bale gift online at [msspa.org/buy-a-bale](http://msspa.org/buy-a-bale)*



279 River Road  
P.O. Box 10  
S. Windham, ME 04082



(207) 892-3040  
[info@msspa.org](mailto:info@msspa.org)  
[www.msspa.org](http://www.msspa.org)