

## **WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS!**

In fact, we spend a lot of time thinking of ways to thank you for everything that you do for us. We cannot offer horse trials, clinics, and annual banquets or anything without the time and effort you put in to make it all happen. We really appreciate your efforts.

If you are a MCTA Member, we give you discounted fees for our clinics, horse trials and schoolings.

A minimum of 8-volunteer hours earned over the year entitle you to receive the wonderful trophies, prizes and end-of-year awards. We award at least two monetary grants and scholarships every year to our volunteers who apply for them.

Last year, we started a new program where we let you trade your volunteer hours for free clinics and schoolings. HOW NEAT IS THAT! This is how much we value volunteerism.

Your volunteer hours are good for 12 months, so please use them! Remember, clinics cost us a lot to put on, so we must ask you to secure your free spot in the clinic with a \$50 refundable deposit that we hand back to you when you show up on the day. All clinics are filled on a 'first come, first served' basis, so if you really want a spot, you should send in your money and clinic release form right away!

Free schoolings over the competition courses at MCTA-Shawan Downs, MCTA Starter HT or Jenny Camp can be earned with as few as 4-hours of volunteer time.

'How do I volunteer?', you ask. Usually before each of MCTA's horse trials, there will be work sheets posted on the website under the individual horse trials we offer MCTA at Shawan Downs (N-CCI 3-Star), Starter HT (EN, SN, BN, N) and Jenny Camp (EN, BN, N) and also on our Volunteer webpage. They will describe the activity, the date, location and the tools needed to do each job. There will also be a contact person that you can call to ask questions.

What about volunteer opportunities for our Members who live farther away, like in NJ? No problem. We have all kinds of jobs, some are indoors and involve computers, and some are outdoors and involve a little muscle. We encourage you to get involved at all levels.

What about training? We have no problem providing training. We usually pair you with an experienced volunteer. You work with them so you can learn the job, and get your questions answered right then. Besides, we have really nice volunteers and it is more fun to do things together. We see our volunteers come back year after year, so it is a little like a friend reunion.

We look forward to you becoming one of our regular volunteers as well. It is all about giving back to your community so that it is a better place for all of us to live work and play. We know you love horses, and the sport of eventing. So come join with us and volunteer where your heart really beats.