

MCGINNIS MEADOWS INTERNS

A Culture of Learning







**OUR MISSION:
TO CREATE A CULTURE OF
LEARNING, COMMITMENT
AND PASSION FOR HORSES
THAT TRANSLATES
DIRECTLY TO LIFE.**

A LITTLE ABOUT OUR PROGRAM...

Our internship program began at McGinnis Meadows in 2013. It started with an idea—a far-fetched idea at the time. Shayne knew that he had knowledge to share with students in his teaching—having ridden in over 400 Buck Brannaman clinics over the last 20 years and having made multiple bridle horses under Buck’s standards. It was obvious by that time that the larger portion of our guest demographic was transitioning from those who wanted trails and cattle drives, to those who were hungry for more horsemanship knowledge.

Shayne dreamed of a program where interested individuals could stay longer than a typical guest. They would be staying months rather than weeks—allowing the teaching to become more thorough, more intensive and with results that would speak for themselves.

Would it work? We had two interns our first year. The second year we had seven. By the end of 2018, we will have had a total of 50 interns who have spent anywhere from one month up to a year at the ranch in our program! Most of our wranglers came here first as interns. Those who have gone home have had success as a result of the program—not only as it relates to horses but in all other aspects of their personal lives.

It's hard to describe exactly what a person finds here as an intern. They learn about horsemanship to a degree that is above and beyond what can be found anywhere else. This is the only program of it's kind which teaches Buck Brannaman horsemanship at its most advanced levels in a ranch setting. Shayne is the head teacher in the program and continues to teach horsemanship from the viewpoint of the horse, focusing on the finest of details as they relate to the horse's movement and balance. He continues the journey of taking young horses all the way up to the bridle as a part of his daily life. Assisted by Des and Roby, two students who have been following Buck, riding with him whenever possible and who have also "made" horses of their own, the program is thorough and well-rounded.

Interns not only learn horsemanship. They learn stockmanship. They learn how to take young horses into the mountains and make their first experiences a success. They learn to rope, ride with a flag and jingle in horses. They learn intricacies of horsemanship and getting a horse truly gentle and responsive on the ground. They learn about shoeing, doctoring, ranch management and customer service.

In all of this, interns tell us that after everything is done, mostly, they learn about themselves in the program. Horses have such an incredible ability to teach us to become more patient, forgiving, assertive, fair—all attributes that serve the human in his or her daily life.

But don't just take our word for it, let our interns show you, and let them speak for themselves...

The study of horsemanship is a journey that will never end, but it's one I consider myself lucky to be a part of. It's so much more than just mechanics, it's a way of life that gets you finding things within yourself you never knew existed. McGinnis Meadows has opened my eyes to what riding and horses is really all about, and my time here has taught me more than I could have hoped for. It is an experience I will take with me forever. --Sydney





**AN OPEN MIND AND A
BURNING DESIRE TO
LEARN IS KEY. OUR
INTERNS COME FROM
COUNTRIES AROUND THE
WORLD, FROM EVERY AGE
BRACKET AND FROM
EVERY WALK OF LIFE!**

This internship has taught me responsibility and made me more humble. It has showed me that horses can be the best teachers in the world because they teach you how to ride correct, and show you what you are doing wrong. During this internship I have learned more about the horse and riding outside than any other place. Here it teaches what you can achieve with a horse doing jobs on the ranch. --Scott

Of all the things I learned during my internship perhaps the most important is to not take myself too seriously. Riding is a journey. On this journey you will make mistakes, you will feel like giving up, and you will feel fear. But for every time you feel as if you could have done better, you will experience moments of prosperity, you will have success, and you will do something to make your horse better. --JESSIE

IF YOU WANT TO GET AN UNPARALLELED
FOUNDATION FOR THIS STYLE OF HORSEMANSHIP,
THERE IS NOWHERE ELSE TO GO, OR EVEN
CONSIDER. ASIDE FOR THE SHEER BEAUTY OF THE
LOCATION MATCHED WITH A LARGE HERD OF SOME
OF THE MOST WELL-TRAINED HORSES I HAVE EVER
KNOWN, YOU WILL FIND A SAFE PLACE TO EXPLORE
THIS STYLE...IT CHANGED MY LIFE FOR THE
BETTER. --BROOKE



YOU WON'T FIND ANOTHER PROGRAM LIKE THIS. HORSEMANSHIP IS TAUGHT IN THE ARENA, IN THE MEADOWS, OVER MOUNTAINS, WITH CATTLE AND IN DAY TO DAY WORKINGS OF THE RANCH



**LOYAL TO THE TEACHINGS
OF TOM DORRANCE, RAY
HUNT AND OUR MENTOR,
BUCK BRANNAMAN. ALL
INSTRUCTORS AND
WRANGLERS ON THE
RANCH ARE ON THE SAME
PAGE WHICH ALLOWS FOR
INSTRUCTION THAT IS
CONSISTENT AND
SYNCHRONIZED, WHILE
LEAVING ROOM FOR
INDIVIDUAL STYLE AND
PERSONALITY.**

Having the chance here to ride every day with people that have worked their whole life to achieve fine horsemanship is such a privilege and an honor. Shayne, Roby, and Des always challenge you to be the best that you can be, and sometimes it even seems that they believe in us more than we believe in ourselves.--Sydney

WITH THE CONSTANT SUPPORT, TRUTHS,
AND GUIDANCE FROM THE WHOLE CREW AT
MCGINNIS, I FOUND MY WAY WITH THE
HORSE THROUGH A FEEL.--BREE

Getting a feeling for your horse and not just riding mechanical is essential for a deep relationship with a horse. I learned that a ride shouldn't be done when the exercise is done. You should finish when your horse is better than the day before. That was a moment, which completely changed my mind. It's vital to give the horse something back, have patience and to always be fair. Having a happy horse with ears forward and a satisfied expression in his eyes can't be taken for granted and should have top priority.--Nadine

**70 RANCH
HORSES
AVAILABLE FOR
INTERNS TO RIDE
OF ALL LEVELS OF
EDUCATION.**



COMRADERY AND SUPPORT ABOUNDS. INTERNS QUICKLY BECOME ONE OF THE CREW AND TO US, OUR CREW IS AS CLOSE AS FAMILY.



"The term family is often used in relation to blood relatives- however, here at McGinnis Meadows I have been blessed with a new ranch family. All the staff, guests, and fellow interns that I have met and gotten to know in the past two months have each had a special impact on me. There really isn't anywhere else in the world like this beautiful Montana ranch.-- Jenna

The whole team at the ranch is just awesome and more than happy to teach you in all various aspects of ranch work: be it ground-work and riding, colt starting, cattle management, roping, shoeing, doctoring horses and cattle and much more. You can become part of a great team, get your own responsibilities and really learn what teamwork is all about. The internship at McGinnis has changed me and my work with horses forever.-- Clarissa

Feeling the reins swing on my horse while trotting out, and him feeling back to me was incredible - there is no better thing than being connected with a horse. I am so grateful that I got a taste of that feeling and it made me hungry for more. I cannot wait to continue this journey.--Valerie

I CAME HERE WITH LITTLE EXPERIENCE WITH HORSES, AND NO IDEA OF THIS STYLE OF RIDING. THIS INTERNSHIP FOR ME CHANGED MY LIFE IN SO MANY WAYS. ASIDE FROM THE FACT THIS STYLE OF HORSEMANSHIP GROWS BONDS, TRUST, RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN YOU AND THE HORSES, IT SHOWS YOU EXACTLY WHO YOU ARE. I WILL NEVER FORGET THIS FEELING NOR THE HORSES THAT BECAME MY TEACHERS. --BREE

**INTERNS LEAVE
HERE WITH
NEWFOUND
KNOWLEDGE,
CONFIDENCE
AND TOOLS TO
TAKE HOME
WITH THEM TO
THEIR HORSES
AND THEIR
WORKFORCE OR
CLASSROOM.**





Shayne's words ring in my ears, "Are you willing to wait on your horse?"

The question is, are we willing to wait on them? I learned [here at MMR] that horses are eager to understand what we are communicating if the right questions are asked and with clarity. There is an elegant softness and lightness in the human to horse relationship. When the rider and the horse are truly moving in synchronicity with one another, the cues are very subtle, soft, and graceful.. the dance of the horse. --Ali





MCGINNIS MEADOWS INTERNS



WE HOPE TO RIDE WITH YOU SOON!



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