



Mounted Eagles Special Olympics Equestrian Team

As of April 15 our team roster is complete. We have six athletes who will be attending the State Competition on August 19, 2011 in North Branch, MN. Training will begin in May. Returning athletes are Alicia Paine and Justin Fairbanks. New members of the team are Danny Meyer, Bergen Hanson, Mary Decker and Lydia Putnam. Danny, Bergen and Mary are Special Olympic athletes in other sports and are no strangers to medals and ribbons. Lydia will be our youngest team member, as she will be just 8 years old, the minimum age required for participation. Alicia and Justin return to the team as experienced riders and we look for them for team leadership. Susie Bailiff and Becky Clarkin will return as coaches. Aggie Stroot will also join us as a coach this year.



Special Olympics Athlete Oath

"Let me win.
But if I cannot win,
let me be brave
in the attempt."

New Mounted Eagles Program Horse

Welcome Stormy! If you have not met Stormy yet you are in for a real treat. Stormy is a very large handsome guy. He is a Belgian draft horse who is experienced in both riding and driving. He is used to being in parades and has a very calm and quiet personality. Stormy came to Mounted Eagles from Thief River Falls. His owner heard that we were in need of a draft horse. We are looking forward to Stormy having a long and happy future with Mounted Eagles. To ensure Stormy stays healthy, we will be very cautious about using him with heavier riders. There will be occasions when Stormy's riders will spend time on groundwork and grooming activities. These activities are beneficial both to you and your horse. A big thank you to Aggie Stroot for her many hours spent searching the internet for horses, making trips to see horses in person and then bringing Stormy to Mounted Eagles. Thank you also to Toni and Susie for their time spent going to look at horses and picking up Stormy.



Great Grazin'

"We Love Our Program,
You'll Love Our Food"



Mounted Eagles Cookbook 2011 will be completed and ready for sale at the Mounted Eagles Fundraising Dressage Schooling Show on June 18. Come to the show and get your copy or buy one at the barn. The book is full of fantastic recipes and wonderful pictures and messages about the contributors. Get your Christmas list ready and buy several for friends and family.



Sami Salzl and Stormy

Rider of the Quarter - Karlee Schuler

Each Tuesday, nine year old Karlee Schuler pulls on her riding boots in anticipation of her horseback riding lesson with Mounted Eagles Therapeutic Horseback Riding Program. Mounted Eagles, located south of Brainerd, is a favorite weekly activity for Karlee who has been riding for about four years.

Karlee has been diagnosed with a mild form of cerebral palsy due to a traumatic birth. Horseback riding helps to strengthen Karlee's core muscles to improve her overall balance and ability to stand up straight. While in the saddle, she works to keep her heels down which helps to stretch out her tight leg muscles.

Karlee has become a very confident rider and likes to show off the trophies and ribbons that she has earned. She eagerly mounts her riding partner Rosie, a pretty little white Arabian mare. Horse and rider move out together from the mounting block and complete their warm up walk around the riding arena. Next up are the stretching exercises performed on horseback to warm up Karlee's muscles. She is now ready to ride independently and her volunteer riding coach removes Rosie's lead rope. Karlee is asked to perform her turns and then steer Rosie through the cones. Karlee then flashes her contagious smile as she and Rosie move into a trot. Posting through a trot requires Karlee to use her leg muscles and she concentrates to properly complete her ride.

Karlee's parents, Krista and Mike, credit horseback riding at Mounted Eagles for Karlee's increased confidence to try new things and her becoming much more outgoing. Karlee lives in Baxter with her parents, two younger sisters Bailey and Abby and two dogs, Zeke and Shelby. Karlee loves school but looks forward to summer weekends filled with the whole family going camping together. The family camping trips also include lots of swimming and fishing. Karlee likes to go bowling and her youth league team took second place this year. Between the camping trips this summer, Karlee has decided to give the sport of softball a try. Such a busy young lady.



Karlee we are so proud of all that you have accomplished at Mounted Eagles. Keep up the great job!

NAHRA Certified Instructors



Sami Salzl



Lise Lunde

Mounted Eagles is proud to announce that we have two volunteers who will now be pursuing training to become NAHRA Certified Instructors. Sami Salzl and Lise Lunde have both committed to this training. Sami has been working on her training since December and has now entered into the mentor portion. Tuesday riders can expect to see Sami instructing more classes under mentorship from our Senior Instructor, Susie Baillif. Lise is in the beginning stages of her training and will begin her mentorship when she completes several online applications and tests. We thank both of these ladies for stepping up to this commitment. It will give our program more flexibility and add new ideas to our lessons.

Mounted Eagles is always eager to speak at community organizations to promote our program. If you know of such an organization that would be interested in having us speak and/or make a donation, please contact Lynn at 218.454.3228. Corporate and individual donations are welcomed as well. 100% of all donations go toward paying expenses that allow us to continue to provide services and are tax deductible for the donor. Thank you.

Mounted Eagles Benefit Dressage Schooling Show at Spirit Horse Center

Come and join the fun on Saturday, June 18 for the annual Mounted Eagles Dressage Schooling Show which is being hosted at Spirit Horse Center. The proceeds from the show will go to the Mounted Eagles Therapeutic Riding Program. In past years, the event has drawn local riders and horses from the Brainerd Lakes area as well as those from other areas in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Our judge this year is Jim Hatch, who has been the judge at the annual Mounted Eagles Participant Show in the fall. It will be a day long event, starting in the morning and continuing into the late afternoon, so plan to stop by and support the show participants. Riders and their horses will demonstrate their dressage skills in the indoor arena. Mounted Eagles will also be sponsoring a refreshment tent with lots of great food and beverages. This is a great opportunity to support the Mounted Eagles program, visit with friends and see the beautiful sport of dressage. Hope to see you there!



Jennifer Aulie at 2010 Mounted Eagles Schooling Show

Wine Tasting Fund Raiser

The Wine & Hors d'oeuvres event held on April 28th at the Nisswa American Legion to benefit Mounted Eagles was a great success. Although we had fewer in attendance than in years past, we raised more money than ever before due to the addition of a raffle for many wonderful handmade items, original art and other donated items. Thank you to all who attended. Please spread the word about the abundant delicious food we enjoyed to encourage others to attend next year. Total profit for the event was \$1,272.08. Thank you to Aggie Stroot for all of her help. Thank you to Bergen Hanson, Justin Fairbanks, Danny Meyer and David Leek for greeting people and helping at the registration table.



2011 Calendar of Events

- June 18 Dressage Schooling Benefit Show
- Aug. 16 Volunteer Training
- Aug. 20 Special Olympics
- Sep. 10 Walk N Roll So They Can Ride
- Sep. 30 Hoofin It for Mounted Eagles
- Oct. 13 Volunteer Training

Watch www.mountedeagles.org for updated calendar.



Happy Birthday

April			May			June	
RaeLynn R	Mitchell R	Susie B	Mary D	Austin H	Greg D	Nancy L	Wendy W
Eric L	Nakota P	Theresa G	Rachel T	Nancy R	Natasha S	Barb H	Ronda R
Jake T	Shirley A	Amanda G	Melodie S	Austin M	Jenny W	Louisa T	Brittany E
Kelsey O	Katie V	Austin N	Courtne G	Preston N		Mya H	Zoe S
James S	Dylan B	Bruce G	Renee D	Alicia J		Gavin P	Daniel B
Lydia P							

The Mounted Eagles' *Mane Tales* is a Quarterly Publication of Mounted Eagles, Inc.

Lynn Fairbanks, Executive Director; Susie Baillif, Sr. Instructor; Shirly Adolphson and Toni Wasilensky, Volunteer Directors

Board of Directors: Jan Moran, Chairperson; Kris Olson, Vice Chairperson; Cheryl Triplett, Secretary

Mary Hammer, Colleen Langren, Lise Lunde, Aggie Stroot, and Sandy Strom

Editor/Contributor: Melodie Salzl ♦ Newsletter Publication: Linda Dahl, Dahl Graphics & Printing

Facility Location: Spirit Horse Center, 8386 50th Ave., Brainerd 56401 Visit our website at www.mountedeagles.org or call 1-888-828-9920.



PRSRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 252
BRAINERD, MN

Return Service Requested

Mounted Eagles Inc.
20883 Wood Land Rd
Ironton, MN 56455