



The Mounted Eagles' Mane Tales

Therapeutic Horsemanship

Volume 4, Issue 10, May, 2006

Welcome to our New Board Members & Thanks to those who have retired.

Mounted Eagles' would like to welcome three new members to our Board of Directors. Staci Grattan, is a current volunteer, Instructor in Training, and a valued supporter of the program. Staci has been involved with the operations of Moutned Eagles for three years and we feel fortunate to have her commit to helping us grow stronger through working with the BOD. Theresa Grow works for Crow Wing County Social Services and has been a great referral source for our program. She has been involved in special olympics in Brainerd and has served on the Dist 181 Community Education Advisory committee. Her knowledge of and expertise in working with persons with disabilities will be a great asset to our program. Kris Nelson is Human Resource Director at Consolidated Telephone Company (CTC) and is a current United Way Board Member. Kris has a passion for persons with disabilities and is committed to heightening the awareness of Mounted Eagles and our services in the community. Kris has an extensive background in volunteering, to name a few: United Way, American Legion Auxiliary, National American Legion Auxiliary Board, National Level of Girls Nation & Girls State, Lakes Area Human Resources, is a member of Zonta and the City Memorial Committee. We look forward to the support Kris will give to the Mounted Eagles.

After numerous years of serving on the Board of Directors, Diane Roth, Jim Nelson & Susie Baillif have retired. They have each contributed greatly to the success and growth of the program and we value their contributions. They will all remain involved in the program at some level according to their individual skills and will continue to support our mission and goals. Thanks to all of you for the years you have given serving on the BOD.



Congratulations to our High School Graduates!

Sam Weber, Zach Lively, Malissa Martin, and Amy Roth graduated from High School this year. What an accomplishment! Congratulations to all of you and we wish you only the best in life as you approach the future.

Take A look at our New Home



Our months & years of struggling with being unable to ride because of muddy roads, cold temperatures, noisy roofs etc are over! We are finally settled into the new facility and we are so thankful to be so blessed! Four Winds Horse Center is a dream come true for Toni & Don Wasilensky & Kris & Charlie Winum, the new owners, as well as for the Mounted Eagles program. The facility is beautiful and serves our needs very well. We have a heated indoor arena that will allow us to ride year around, access to a state-of-the-art clubroom and INDOOR PLUMBING! Our horses have beautiful pastures to enjoy and those who are inside have 1st rate accommodations in the insulated barn. We are grateful for the years we spent at Clare B Training Center. George & Clare were strong supporters of our program and played a big part in our growth & success over the past 12 years. We will always remember them for their generosity and compassion for our horses and the people we serve. If you haven't had an opportunity to visit the new facility, stop by sometime and take a look around. Toni, Kris, Charlie, Don or a Mounted Eagles' staff member is always on site and will be happy to give you a tour.

Facility Address:
13860 Shawkia Drive, Brainerd MN
56401 218-82Horse (824-6773)



Susie,
Abby,
Christina
& Sandy
review

lesson plans in the new arena.

Congratulations to our Rider of the Quarter!



Dalton Schreier and Thunder make an awesome team.

I'll always remember the conversation I had with Dalton's mother when she called about having him join the Mounted Eagles' family. She explained to me his diagnosis of Mild Cerebral Palsy and how this disease weakened some parts of his body. We talked about how horseback riding has been shown to increase muscle tone, increase fine & gross motor skills and strengthen balance and how at M.E. we focus on what our riders CAN do instead of what they are prohibited from doing because of their different abilities. I will always remember her telling me: "To me he's a normal little boy who walks with a limp." With support and acceptance like that, how could he ever fail in anything! We all want our children to succeed and parents of special needs children want the same. It's how we treat them that makes the difference.

Dalton lives up his mother's description fully. He is a sweet, daring, confident little boy who at times challenges the instructors and volunteers. He can be moody and defiant just like any other little boy. He loves riding Thunder and looks forward to his lessons each week with Toni even though she doesn't let him get away with not focusing and paying attention. There are times when he leads the horse rather than rides just to remind him that he needs to listen and follow directions. A couple of weeks after he started riding in the program, his dad shared with us that his teachers had asked what Dalton was doing different from his regular routine. They had seen much improvement in his behavior and his willingness to focus in class. Guess what dad told them- yea- The only thing different in his schedule was that he was now riding horses once a week. Don't ya just love it! Thanks to Tom, Amy & sister, Abby, for your support and for allowing Dalton to be a part of our Mounted Eagles Family, Congratulations, Dalton on your many successes!

A "Rider of the Quarter" will be featured in the Brainerd Dispatch and the Mane Tales each quarter. Watch to see whose next!

Welcome to our New Riders and Volunteers for the CY2006 Season

Riders: Kathi K., Zach L., Alechia L., Lydia P., Veronica U., Sarah H., Alicia J. and Andrew O.

We're so happy to have you join our Mounted Eagles family. We're looking forward to meeting your needs through your participation in therapeutic horsemanship lessons.

Kris Olson, Christina Zugschwert, Char Czech and Barb Swanberg have joined the volunteer staff this year. Kris on Tuesday, Christina & Char on Thursday and Barb off-site taking care of mailing out our Bday cards.

We are in **desperate need of more volunteers**; those who can come on a regular basis or serve "on call". We also need volunteers who are willing to work at special events for us, if they are not comfortable working at the barn with the horses and/or riders. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please have them contact Mary Hammer, Volunteer Director, at 218-839-1274.

Thanks to all of you for all you give! We appreciate you so much!

Happy Birthday to:

Apr. Aleachia L. Beth S. Jake T. Lydia P. Mitchell R. Shirley A, Susie B.

May. Rachel T. Blaine L. Alicia J. Jenny W.

Jun. Becky C. Barb H. John H. Lena O. Keagan P. Kimberly P. Kristin H. Alison G. Aaron D.

Fund Raising Updates

We still have note cards and M.E. Logo Bottled Water available for sale. We have added some new items to the card selection: Book Marks & Gift Tags. They're really neat and make great birthday, wedding, or anniversary gifts. Contact Aggie at 888.828.9920 if you wish to purchase cards or treats.

Aluminum Cans

Aluminum cans can be dropped off at CW Recycling and credited to the Mounted Eagles account. All you have to do is tell them you want the deposit to go to M.E. If you know of an establishment (rest or bar) who would allow us to collect their cans, please speak with them or contact Aggie at 888.828.9920.

Old Cell Phones!

We're still collecting cell phones as a fundraising item. This is an easy fund raising project for us. Save your old cell phones, collect them from your friends & family. Let us know if there's a business near you that would allow us to set up a "drop box" that you could maintain for us. We can send the phones in for refurbishing and they will pay us \$\$'s for them. **No chargers, bag phones, cases or earphones please.** Give Aggie a call and let her know if you can help out. 1-888-828-9920.

Saying Goodbye is Always Hard

Our Deepest Sympathy goes out to Katie R. whose mother was killed in a motorcycle accident in May.

We said goodbye to a long-time equine friend this year. Tolona, who served us well for a number of years and who has been "retired" at Susie's house for the past 4-5 years went peacefully to greener pastures in May.

Grants Received

We have received grant monies during CY2006 from the following organizations. We extend our sincere appreciation to them for their support of our mission & goals.

American Quarter Horse Assoc.
Minnesota Horse Council
Mille Laes Electric Cooperation
Brained Lakes Area Comm. Foundation
Central MN Initiative Foundation

Many thanks, as well, to the Individual Donors who have continued to support us.

Please remember to include Mounted Eagles in your Donations and/or Advertising Budget for CY2006 & 2007. Thank You!

All donations are **TAX DEDUCTIBLE**

Looking Toward the Future

HOP Update: HOP Committee Meeting June 8th, 8:30 am, Boardwalk Bread & Bagel. The HOP program is sponsored by the Central MN Initiative Foundation.



To all riders and volunteers:

Don't forget to call if you need to cancel your lesson or your availability

for volunteering. A 24hr notice is greatly appreciated. It's a good idea to always call before coming to the barn to make sure lessons have not been canceled by us for any reason.

1-888-828-9920

We want Your News!

If you know of a Mounted Eagles' participant (rider or volunteer) who has made a notable accomplishment, please contact me. We'd love to let everyone know!

Calendar of Events:

June 8,9,10 – Garage Sale

Aug12 – Flapjack Breakfast-at Applebees in Baxter

Date T B A- Motorcycle Run

Nov 21 – Winter Break Start

July 16 – Benefit Show Rocking R Farms, Foley MN

September 9 – Walk-N-Roll

Oct 1-Nov 18-Christmas Card Sales

Jan 2,07 – 07 Riding Season begins

Aug 1-5 – CWC Fair Booth

Sept 23 – ME Horse Show

Nov 8 – 12- NARHA Annual Conf

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