

## Regular Moms versus Special Needs Moms

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Regular moms ask their kids if they brushed their teeth.  
Special needs moms prompt, "Brush your top teeth.  
Brush your bottom teeth. Did you get the sides?"

Regular moms wave goodbye as their kids run off to catch the school bus.  
Special needs moms get awesome door-to-door bus service for their child.

Regular moms judge other moms when kids have tantrums in stores.  
Special needs moms say to themselves, "Hmm, I wonder which disability he has?"

Regular moms complain about driving their kids to sports and recreation classes.  
Special needs moms grin and bear the weekly trips to tutors, doctors and therapists.

Regular moms' kids have a teacher.  
Special needs moms' kids have a team.

Regular moms talk about accomplishments.  
Special needs moms talk about skills, as in play skills, conversation skills, life skills, social skills and vocational skills.

Regular moms relax with their kids during the summer.  
Special needs moms start their second job as home teachers, therapists and skills coaches.

Regular moms think accommodations refer to hotels.  
Special needs moms have memorized the top 20 accommodations for their child.

Regular moms hope their child finds a good career.  
Special needs moms are hopeful someone gives our child the chance to work.

Regular moms enjoy reading the latest bestselling book.  
Special needs moms should receive an honorary degree for all the disability books they've read.

Regular moms get annoyed when their child won't stop talking.  
Special needs moms would do anything to hear their child utter one word, "Mom."

Regular moms have medical and school paperwork that fit in one file folder.  
Special needs moms have a whole file cabinet filled with their child's paperwork.

Regular moms go out for dinner and a movie with their husbands every month.  
Special needs moms have a date night with their husbands every...wait, what decade is this?

Regular moms' kids go to play groups.  
Special needs moms' kids go to therapy groups.

Regular moms meet for a ladies night out.  
Special needs moms get together at support groups and workshops.

Regular moms think OT means overtime.  
Special needs moms know more acronyms than a NASA engineer.

Regular moms read their children stories.  
Special needs moms read their children social stories.

Regular moms are called mom by their kids.  
Special needs moms are called "mom" by their child's doctors, nurses, therapists and teachers.

Regular moms worry about spoiling their kids with too many toys.  
Special needs moms will buy half the store if there's a chance something will get their child playing instead of "stimming".

Regular moms look forward to an "empty nest."  
Special needs moms wonder who will take care of their kids after they're gone.

Regular moms complain their husbands sit on the couch and watch TV while they do all the work.  
Special needs moms...well how about that? Some things do stay the same! (Just kidding dads! We know you do your part!)



It's off to the races every Wednesday June 4th through August 20th with the Nisswa Turtle Races sponsored by the Nisswa Chamber of Commerce. This event is a long standing summer tradition that draws a huge crowd each week for some great family fun. It is also a great fundraiser for the Mounted Eagles program as we provide the official turtle wranglers each week for the event. Stop by and cheer on some turtles and say hello to the turtle wranglers who work so hard to support our program.

## Rider of the Quarter - Riley Vogt

Riley Vogt is a lively 8-yr-old who has been riding at Mounted Eagles for 5 years. Each week when Riley comes to the barn for his riding lesson, he brings his big smile and happy personality. Riley gets excited when it is his turn to go up on the mounting block and settle into the saddle as he mounts his riding partner *Ace*. *Ace* and Riley make a good team as they walk the track around the arena but they are just warming up. When they are both ready, the real fun begins as *Ace* moves into a trot. Riley reacts by giggling very loud and his giggles are contagious to all around him. He so enjoys the trotting!

Riding with the Mounted Eagles program has proven to be very good therapy program for Riley. It is also his favorite therapy program. Riding really helps to calm him and it has improved his overall coordination. Riding has also improved his balance which helps him to sit up better. Riley is not fond of touching things with texture. His riding coaches have been working with him to hold his reins during his riding lesson. Riley is working hard to meet this goal and has shown much improvement.

A resident of Brainerd, Riley lives with his parents Janice and Darrell. He has two dogs, *Shadow* and *Shelby*, and playing tug of war with his dogs is one of his favorite things to do. Riley also enjoys spending time with his extended family which includes several aunts and uncles. He attends Garfield Elementary School and will be in the

third grade next year. Riley doesn't watch much television, but he will clap along with the Wheel of Fortune show. He also loves his trucks and cars along with watching the trains drive by. Maybe there is a train ride in his future? Riley loves to be outdoors, so anything he can do outside is preferred. Going camping provides him with the opportunity to enjoy everything outside, including going swimming. This summer Riley is playing T-ball and is excited to hit the ball. Since Riley doesn't like anything cold, he doesn't eat ice cream. But he still likes to go to the Dairy Queen for some chicken strips and french fries! Otherwise pizza will do just fine.



Riley, we are grateful to have you in the Mounted Eagles family and we are very proud of your accomplishments.

Congratulations on being selected as the Rider of the Quarter.

**Mounted Eagles is a 501(c) non-profit organization.**

**Our Mission Statement:** Mounted Eagles enhances the lives of program participants, volunteers and the community by providing a safe and enjoyable environment where individuals with special needs benefit from therapeutic, developmental and educational equine-assisted activities.

From our Executive Director Lynn Fairbanks

I hope you are enjoying your summer! We are very excited to announce that Mounted Eagles has designated the month of September as "Mounted Eagles Month." We need to build support for our program and are offering something for everyone to participate in. We will be holding three events during the month of September.

Our first event is our annual **Walk-N-Roll, So They Can Ride** on September 6th. This is our twelfth year for this event and offers a great time for all ages. If you haven't attended you are really missing some fun. The "Walk" consists of a pledged trek from Nisswa to Pequot Lakes. Your pledge sheet is included with this newsletter. You can bike, walk, run, rollerblade, push a stroller or use a wheelchair. Contact your friends and family now for a pledge and plan to join us on the trail. There are prizes and recognition for those who raise the most money and have the largest team. After the Walk, you are invited to join us for a spaghetti dinner, live music and silent auction at the Trailside Center (Pequot Lakes Baptist Church) where the Walk concludes. Registration is at 2 pm at the Nisswa Chamber Gazebo and the Walk begins at 3 pm. Dinner and auction run from 3 pm to 7 pm. You can come just for the dinner too.

**12th Annual Walk-N-Roll**  
So they can ride



Advanced Tickets \$25 per person (\$30 at the door)  
Advertise Your Business! Purchase a table of 8 for \$175

**A NIGHT WITH THE STARS**  
A FUNDRAISING EVENT  
Mounted Eagles Therapeutic Horsemanship  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2014  
7 - 10pm

Live Music by Rockin' Hill  
Hors d'oeuvres - Silent Auction - Cash Bar - Raffles - Photo Booth  
Arrowwood Lodge at Brainerd Lakes  
6967 Lake Forest Road in Baxter, MN

Tickets Available at the Nisswa Chamber of Commerce, BOOMER Pizza in Baxter or call 218-829-6141.  
www.mountedeagles.org for more information

Our second event is the **A Night With The Stars** on September 20th. This is our second year for this event and offers a great night out for adults. If you attended last year you know that our committee put together a very classy event. This year's event will be held at the Arrowwood Lodge at Brainerd Lakes and will offer the same fun with a live band, dancing, silent auction, celebrities, beverages and hors d'oeuvres and a fun photo booth. See more details in this newsletter. Invite your friends and help us continue this as our second largest fundraising event.



We have a great way for you to show your support for the Mounted Eagles program. Purchase a decal with our new logo! Put one on your car, mailbox, horse trailer, camper, notebook, laptop wherever you want to show your support. Each decal is only \$5.00.

Available at the barn or by contacting Lynn Fairbanks at 218-963-3936.

**New Volunteers**  
Caitlin K

**New Riders**  
Randy B  
Delores A

**Hoofin' it for Mounted Eagles**  
Time to Hit the Trail

Our third event is our annual **Hoof'In It** trail ride on September 27-28. The trail ride takes place on the beautiful private acreage owned by Bill and Aggie Stroot west of Pequot Lakes. If you have a trail horse this is an event not to be missed. We have two guided rides each day. Light breakfast is served on Saturday, a chuck wagon meal on Saturday evening and pancake breakfast on Sunday morning. Primitive camping is available. Hayrides are available for those who stay back at camp. If you don't have a horse, come out on Saturday evening for the meal and fellowship. You won't be disappointed.

These fundraisers are created to provide interest to everyone and an opportunity for everyone to participate in supporting Mounted Eagles. Families can enjoy the Walk together, A Night with The Stars is a great adult night out and the trail ride for our horse lovers. All proceeds from these events go directly back into the program. **Your promotion and participation in these events is critical.**

In order to keep the Mounted Eagles program operating into 2015, we must raise enough funds. We need all of these events to be record breaking! Please mark your calendar for one or all of these events and contact family, friends, coworkers and neighbors to promote these events.

Thank you for your continued support, it is greatly appreciated.



**2014 Calendar of Events**

June 4 - Aug 20	Turtle Races
July 19	Special Olympics
July 25-26	Brat Sales at Cub Foods, Baxter
July 28	Pizza Ranch Tip Night Fundraiser
Aug 26	Volunteer Training
Sept 6	Walk N Roll
Sept 20	A Night With the Stars
Sept 27-28	Hoof'in It
Oct 19	Participant Show
Oct 23	Volunteer Training

Watch [www.mountedeagles.org](http://www.mountedeagles.org) for updated calendar.

**Happy Birthday**

APRIL	MAY	JUNE
RaeLynn R	Mary D	Becky C
Eric L	Rachel T	Melanie D
Stacy G	Melodie S	Gavin P
Lynn H	Savannah G	Caia F
Jake T	Renee D	Samuel H
James S	Austin M	Megan L
Lydia P	Jessie H	Ronda R
Mitchell R	Cheryl T	Brittany E
Shirley A	Alicia J	Isaac S
Katie V	Natasha S	Isaiah S
Susie B	Jenny W	Zoe S
Bruce G		

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

Lynn Fairbanks, Executive Director; Susie Baillif, Sr. Instructor; Cheryl Triplett, Volunteer Director  
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