

The Mounted Eagles'





Volume 12 + Issue 3 + July-December 2014

From our Executive Director Lynn Fairbanks

What a great year Mounted Eagles has had--lots of great accomplishments by riders, several fun and successful fundraisers, new volunteers and a great facility where we operate our program. At this time I would like to inform you that there will be some changes made to some of our policies. All participants and their families will be receiving a letter outlining these changes. Please look for your letter prior to the beginning of the new riding calendar. If you do not receive your letter, please contact me. There is also some very exciting news to report. We will have the privilege of working with a college intern, Samantha Sykes, who is majoring in Animal Science with a Minor in Equine Therapy. She will be coming to us from the State University of New York at Cobleskill. We are very excited to have her. In December, she hopes to complete her PATH, Intl Certified Instructor course, so she will be qualified to offer us assistance in a variety of areas. She will begin on January 5, 2015 and will be here through April. Please welcome her when you meet her. She will be filling the gap for Susie on riding days that we have now that Kristina Beckman, our Equine Assistant, is no longer with us. In case you are wondering, Kristina moved back to her hometown of Isanti and we wish her all the best and appreciate everything she did for the program over the past 18 months!

In the Spring of 2015, Mounted Eagles will be participating in reaccreditation with PATH Int'l, the organization that oversees the standards that we follow to be an accredited riding center. Please note that we must have certain pieces of paperwork and procedures in place to meet the standards. A site visit will take place and we must be able to show that we are meeting all standards to remain an accredited center. Please help us by promptly filling out any requested paperwork and complying with requests if you are at the barn on the day of our site visit. More information will be coming as to when and how this process involves riders and volunteers. Thank you for your cooperation. I look forward to another great year and hope to see you all at the rider celebration banquet in January.

Participant Horse Show

On October 19th, we hosted the Mounted Eagles Participant Horse Show. This is the annual horse show for our riders to have an opportunity to show off their riding skills. Everyone gets so excited about riding in their chosen event cheered on by family and friends. Each rider works very hard practicing for the show and getting prepared for show day. It's great to see all of you who come out to support them! Thanks to every-one for your help and to all those good cooks who made the potluck a wonderful addition to the event. A very special thanks to all of the volunteers and sponsors who made the show possible.



2015 Calendar of Events

January 6,7,8	Riding resumes for 2015
January 19	Rider's Banquet
January 24	Brainerd Jaycees Ice Fishing Extravaganza
April 13	Annual Meeting
June - August	Nisswa Turtle Races
July 27	Pizza Ranch fundraiser
September 12	Walk N Roll
September 26-27	Hoofin' IT Trail Ride

Watch www.mountedeagles.org for updated calendar.

OUR FUNDRAISERS



For a third season, Mounted Eagles partnered with the Nisswa Chamber of Commerce for the weekly turtle races held in Nisswa. If you haven't been to the races recently or never attended at all, you need to get to Nisswa next summer on Wednesday afternoons at 2 pm. Mounted Eagles provides 100 turtles for the races and enthusiastic youth volunteers wrangle

the turtles for us. They rotate turtles after each race and keep the buckets full of water. On the Wednesday closest to the 4th of July, we had over 800 racers. Most of them race twice, some three or four times. With 20 turtles in a heat, that is a lot of races!! Thank you to all of our wranglers: Zachary Iverson, Tyler & Amber Hidde, Morena & Dana Hammer, Cole & Quinn Trottier, Sheridan Wilson, Taylor, Amanda & Michael Olson, Aggie Stroot, Susie Bailiff, Lynn & Sarah Fairbanks, and a few others who came to help out too. We could not do this without



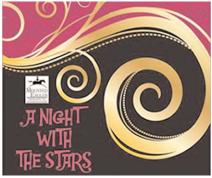






you! Also, a thank you to S & W Bait who provided minnows for the turtles to eat all summer! The Chamber provided us with a donation of \$6,000 for our wrangling duties. Thank you!!!!





Our second A Night With the Stars fundraising event was held on September 20th at the Arrowwood Lodge in Baxter. It was a fun-filled evening with special guest "stars" that did a great job entertaining everyone and providing opportunities for a photo with your favorite star. The band, Rockin' Hill, did an exceptional job pro-

viding the music throughout the evening as well as themed songs as each of the stars were introduced. The dance floor filled up with movers and shakers of

all ages. Guests enjoyed fabulous food, a cash bar and speed raffles with some great prizes. The silent auction provided a great selection of items to bid on with something for everyone. Thank you to Lynn and Jim Hanson, Deb and Ray Griffin, and Mel and Tim Salzl for making the event a reality. As with all fundraisers, it takes the help from many giving people to make it successful. A special thank you to Lise Lunde, Aggie and Bill

Cher



Mary Poppins



Stroot, Lynn Fairbanks, Susie Baillif and many others who gave of their time and talent.

Roy & Dale





Lynn & Lise



OUR FUNDRAISERS



The Walk N Roll was held on September 6. We had a beautiful day. 40 walkers/bikers traveled the 6-mile trek from Nisswa to Pequot Lakes. Our major sponsors included the following: Baxter Lions Club, Brainerd Lakes Surgery Center, Crow Wing Recycling, Garrison VFW Post 1816, Grand Casino Mille Lacs, Grattan Healthcare, Jim & Connie Madison, Spirit Horse Center, Lakeland Agency, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Central Lakes Chapter 31300, Kris & Norman Olson, and Colleen & Irwin Langren. We fell about \$4,000 under our budgeted goal for income. This event is an example of how, Mounted Eagles, as a non-profit relies on participation to make enough money to keep the program running. Please encourage your friends and family to attend next year. There is something for everyone at this event: a walk/ride, dinner, music, silent auction and fellowship with friends. As with all Mounted Eagles events, program participants are always welcome!!!! Thank you to all who volunteer on the walk, dinner, auction, set up and clean up. You are all appreciated!!!

Langer Family - Grand Mashalls







The 6th annual Hoofin' It event, held on September 27th & 28th, proved to be another great adventure for horseback riders and campers as well as those who attended the Saturday evening meal and hayrides. The weather was PERFECT and the colors were at peak in our area. Joining together in the great outdoors with great companions, humans, and horses is as good as it gets! Thanks to all who came and made this another successful fundraising event for the program. Thanks to our sponsors, AccountSense and SuperValu-Pequot Lakes, and to the volunteers who came and worked. We couldn't have done it without you all. Hope you can join us next year. Mark your calendars - September 26-27, 2015.

	<u>.</u>			
کند ا	Shae J	Chiane K	Rebekah H	Aggie S
Happy Birthday	Debby H	Michael W	Jean C	Morgan D
	Amanda R	Wendy N	Sandy Z	Meghan K
	Molly L	Vicky S	Tate B	Trenton R
	Stephanie K	Becky E	Jessica L	Victoria L
	Malissa M	Bethany L	Cody V	Ezra B
	Andrew T	Kerynn M	Sharon L	Debra S
	Derek O	Sandy S	Kelsey W	Debra G
Bergen H	Sam W	Mary H	Randy B	Kristi D
Riley V	Karlee S	Faith M	Bill S	Sherry S
Linda A	Judy M	Cindy R	Erica B	Marcia M
Linda D	Jenny A	Linda S	Jessica M	Kris O
Anshel B	Christine O	Erin S	Sheri L	Kathy P
Michael R				





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.

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Rider of the Quarter - Victoria Langer

Meet Victoria Langer, our Rider of the Quarter who just turned nine years old in December. She has been riding in the Mounted Eagles program since she was three and is very special to the Mounted Eagles program. Victoria has been diagnosed with a unique genetic outcome which includes cerebral palsy and epilepsy. She is also non-verbal and legally blind with rod/cone dystrophy. But nothing will stop this charming young lady from showing her excitement when she is riding a horse. In October, Victoria rode in her first Mounted Eagles Participant Horse Show. Her event was the keyhole and she thoroughly enjoyed her debut.

Sometimes called "the little princess" by her mom Julie, Victoria loves her riding lessons. With help from her dad Richard at the mounting block, Victoria gets into the saddle to ride Wind Dancer during her Tuesday lessons. Riding in the Mounted Eagles program has really helped Victoria's balance and also builds her strength and self-confidence. The Mounted Eagles volunteers who assist Victoria with her lessons can tell that she is happy to be there. They keep a watchful eyes and gentle hands to steady her as she seems to overflow with excitement with her arms and legs moving all around.

A resident of rural Pierz, Victoria has two younger brothers, George and John. The family dog, a rescued German Sheperd and Lab mix named Riley is a great playmate. The Langer family has also recently adopted a Shetland pony named Cricket. Victoria loves to cuddle and share hugs with those around her. She interacts daily with home helpers from REM Rehabilitative services and Grattan Healthcare who assist Victoria and her family with her daily care and exercise program. She has good listening skills and enjoys having books read



to her, with Veggie Tales as her favorite book series. Victoria also loves to listen to music and the sound of bells. Singing is very soothing to her as she listens intently. Even as she is riding her horse during a lesson, her riding volunteers have found that she enjoys it when they sing to her. Her favorite food is fruit and she also loves her chocolate! Something very interesting about Victoria is her middle name. You see she was born on December 12th, and The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is celebrated on December 12th, so her parents gave her the name Guadalupe as her middle name.

Victoria, 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.



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