

Featuring Donna and Jim Rieter
Posse Members since 1986

Donna's first experiences riding were on adorable Ponies at events her parents would take her too (see photo ☺). Later in life she had the good fortune of her employer wanting someone to ride with his daughter on trail, and knowing Donna's horse interests he offered to find her a horse and board it at his place on Guerin Road in Libertyville. She recalls riding horses down river road, at the former quarry (now Independence Grove) and eventually down to the areas where Day Break Stable are currently and further on to visit the Sengs. She recalls Vickie Wancho "ran" the stables where Day Break is now.

Donna became a member of the ITRA (Illinois Trail Rider's Association) and became friends with a Posse member named Ruby Holmquist. Ruby told Donna she needed to join the Posse. Donna then told me "telling Ruby no was not an option". Frances L. Ritter was also a member of ITRA and the President of the WI Trail Riders Association. Donna owned a horse "Chubby Bar Jack" aka Cbar, a black QH gelding. Jim would ride (I didn't know Jim rode, Donna had many pictures to prove it!) his appaloosa name Tacumsah and eventually a Missouri Fox Trotter named LAD, a strawberry roan.

Donna's favorite memories are of the fall ride at Temple Farm. She recalls Ruby being the ultimate coordinator, and Roy was in charge of all the trail bosses. "I remember Cindy Seng and Ruby, and Frances being trail bosses on the ride, among others, but Frances left at the wrong time, the rides (groups of 100 at that time) ended up running into each other on the trail causing a bit of a problem." "I also recall seeing a lot of riders being lofted from their horses. You see back then everyone was invited. There used to be tickets sold at the Saddle Shop and the Feed Store. Some riders wouldn't ride all year BUT they would bring out their horses for **the Fall Ride!** This made for an exciting ride. The Posse did an incredible job coordinating this event. There were police on site for the road crossings, there were paramedics, even a designated rescue horse trailer. There was always a ground crew around at the end to get unwilling horses back in their trailers. I enjoyed seeing quite a wide variety of horses, some would even have their show saddles, and I would just walk around and look at

them all. And Boyce, he would always announce the raffles, and was very entertaining! Another hi-light was Gerrit deKoning, he would give horse and carriage rides to anyone who wanted to go. “Donna and Jim have enjoyed volunteering for the Fall Ride to ensure our safety at the crossings! You’ll see Donna riding a variety of horses with other Posse members so she can continue to ride with the Posse!

